



The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

for RETAILER - WHOLESALE - MANUFACTURER

Published 1859

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Registered as a Newspaper

3348
CXLI

APRIL 8, 1944

Annual Subscription (with
Diary) 25/-. Single Copies 9d.

'Ascabiol' for Pediculosis Capitis

TRADE
MARK

'ASCABIOL'

BRAND

benzyl benzoate emulsion

It has now been established that 'ASCABIOL' is effective in the treatment not only of scabies but of infestation with pediculosis capitis (the common head louse).

The new formula presents benzyl benzoate in the form of an emulsion which not only destroys lice but dissolves the cement by which nits adhere to the hairs. The nits can therefore be removed by simple washing instead of the painstaking use of the small-tooth-comb.

The greatly increased demand for this product has made possible substantial price reductions which come into operation to the medical profession and the general public on May 1st. Retail pharmacists will be supplied at the new prices as from April 3rd.

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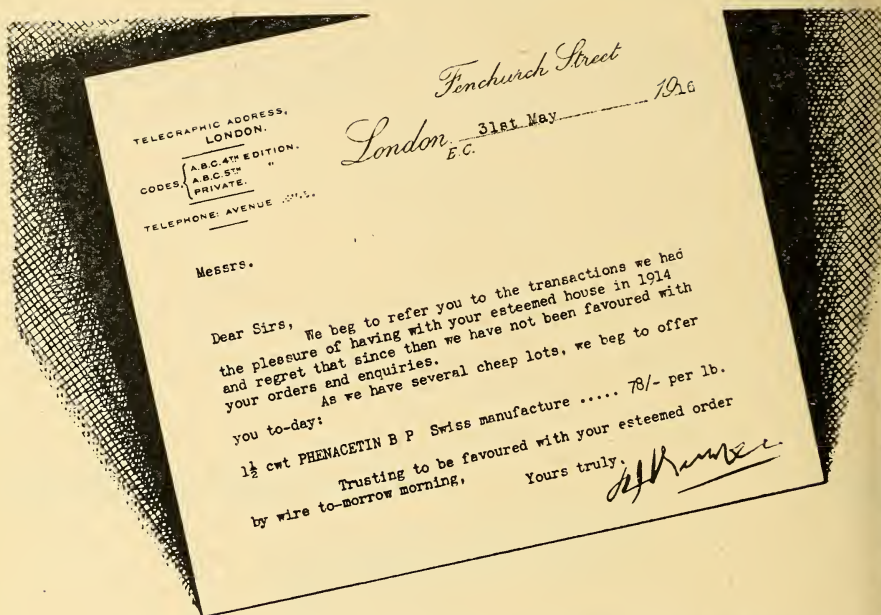
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Distributors

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES (MAY & BAKER) LTD. DAGENHAM



1914 { One of our friends turning out some salvage the other day came across the above letter which he sent us as a matter of interest. War had then barely been waged for two years, and the country was in desperate straits for numerous essential medicinals.

1918 { The earlier dependence of this country on German supplies was soon bringing retribution in fantastic scarcity prices

1939 { Now, after four years of war, the steady building in pre-war days of a British fine chemicals industry brings its reward

1943 { Users of Phenacetin who supported British manufacture in peace time now rely comfortably on steady supplies from MONSANTO—and at a price not far removed from peace time level.

Monsanto

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●We wish to thank pharmacists for the care they are taking to distribute fairly our limited output of this food. We ask their continued co-operation in restricting supplies for infants, and for invalids who are taking it under doctors' instructions.

PRICE REDUCTION

As from April 1st the price of Farex to the public is 1/- per 10 oz. carton ; the reduced trade price has operated since March 1st.

Though we are not at present able to promise any increase in production, this matter is receiving all possible attention ; wartime difficulties will be over come as soon as this is practicable.

FAREX**A NOURISHING BLEND OF CEREALS, MINERALS AND VITAMINS****GLAXO LABORATORIES LTD., GREENFORD, MIDDLESEX.****BY Ron 3434**

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In the treatment of all coccogenic or pyogenic affections observed clinical cases have proved the remarkable value of Crookes' Collosol Manganese. It is a colloidal preparation which is prevented from precipitation on addition to the blood plasma. Its action is to *increase* the protective powers of the serum proteins—and is thus non-specific and effective. When injected intramuscularly there is the minimum of discomfort, and by the oral route it is particularly convenient for the treatment of children.

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BEAT...**

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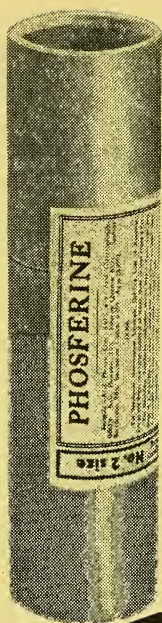
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TABLETS & POWDER

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Pharmaceutical
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only*



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OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS

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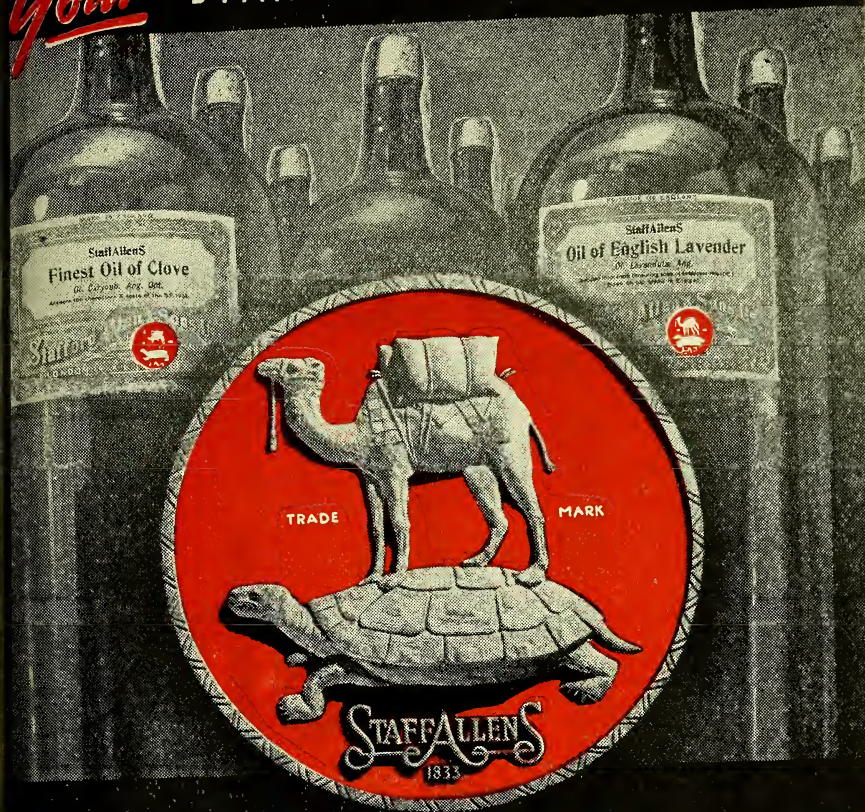
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LINE!*

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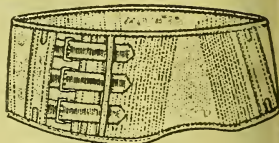
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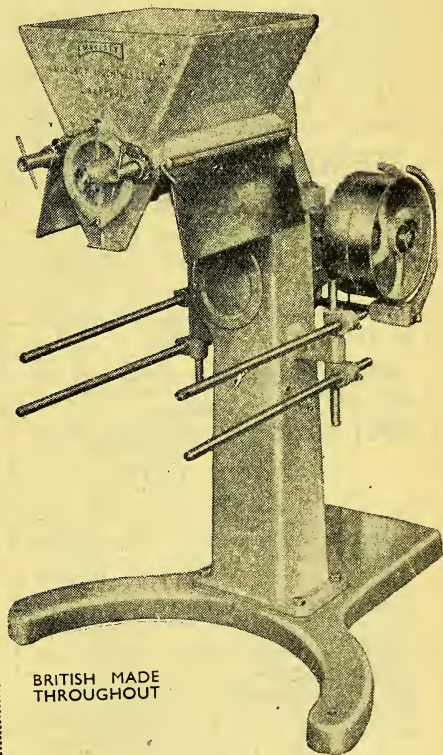
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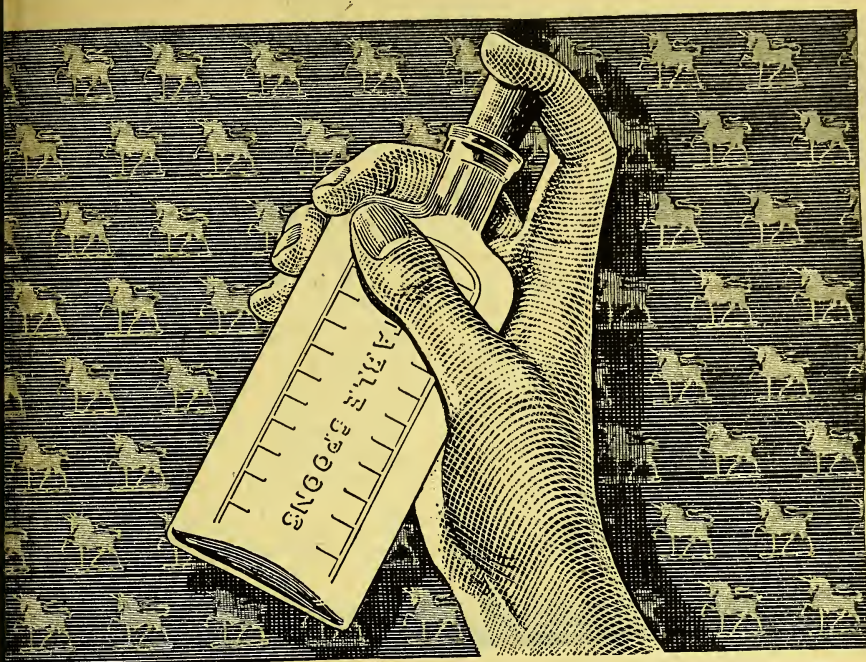
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NEWS OF THE WEEK

Sweets Ration.—There is no change in the amount of the chocolate and sweets ration or value of personal points for period 10. 10, which began on Sunday, April 2.

Liverpool Fire.—Fire broke out on April 1 at the factory of Bell & Sons, Ltd., veterinary chemists, Silverdale Works, Old Swan, Liverpool. Extensive damage was done to stock, which included medicinal preparations, bandages, and appliances.

Considered as Controlled.—The Board of Trade announces that it considers persons who add perfume to pot pourri, lavender, etc., to be manufacturers of goods controlled under the Toilet Preparations Orders (S. R. & O., 1943, Nos. 1213 and 1683). Such persons are therefore required to comply with those Orders.

Vinegar Prices.—The Ministry of Food is considering making a maximum price order for vinegar. As it will be necessary to define various types of vinegar in the Order, a summary of the Memorandum

prepared by the Interdepartmental Committee on Food Standards, together with a list of the definitions it recommends, has been issued, and will be given in next week's issue of the *C. & D.* Any manufacturer who wishes to make representations on the subject should communicate with the Ministry of Food, St. John's College, Oxford, not later than April 30.

Liver Extract Order (Scotland).—The Liver Extract (Regulation of Use) Order (Scotland), 1944 (S. R. & O., 1944, No. 290/S11), came into operation on March 15. The Order prohibits the supply to any person for distribution or use in the United Kingdom of any liver extract, other than injectable liver extract or proteolysed liver extract, unless manufacture was completed not later than August 31, 1941. No person may administer or cause or permit the administration of any liver extract to a person who is not suffering from pernicious anaemia or some other megalocytic anaemia, or supply any liver extract for the use of any person in the United Kingdom who is

not suffering from these conditions. The Order revokes the Liver Extract (Regulation of Use) Order (Scotland), 1941 (S. R. & O., 1941, No. 1352).

Dangerous Drugs Stolen.—At Cosham, Portsmouth, on March 23, a doctor's car was broken open and two cases containing surgical instruments and drugs stolen; among the drugs were tubes of hyoscine and Nembutal.

Chemists' Rugby in Eire.—The Dublin Chemists' rugby team faced their stiffest opposition to date when they recently met a Dublin Hospitals selected XV at Donnybrook, and were finally the losers by 19 points to 10.

Retirement.—Mr. W. B. Nelson, Ph.C. (general manager of Allen & Hanburys, Ltd.) retired on March 31 after twenty-five years' service with the company. The occasion was marked by tributes and presentations made on behalf of directors and staff at a large gathering of the staff.

Bolton Association.—At the annual meeting of the Bolton Pharmaceutical Association on March 30, Mr. E. N. Fox was appointed *President*, in which capacity he has been acting since the death of Mr. W. Rothwell in May 1943. Other officers elected were: *Vice-president*, Mr. Stanley Haywood; *Secretary*, Mr. W. Crumblehulme; *Treasurer*, Mr. R. Dunne. It was decided to give £100 to the Mayor of Bolton's Infirmary Appeal Fund.

Women Pharmacists Form Newcastle Branch.—An inaugural meeting of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Branch of the National Association of Women Pharmacists was held on March 29, when an address was given by MADAME ZYS on "Pharmacy in Italy." The following officers and committee were appointed. *Chairman*, Miss K. Bell; *Secretary*, Miss I. S. Hay, 4 Budle Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 4; *Treasurer*, Miss M. Wardell; *Committee*, Madame Zys, Misses K. Atkins, S. I. Wood, M. Thompson, F. Carter, and Wilson. It was decided to hold meetings quarterly.

Bradford Fire.—A fire which broke out in the premises of the Bradford Chemists' Alliance, Ltd., Bradford, Yorks, recently, completely destroyed the whole of large stocks of proprietary medicines, toilet preparations, infants' foods, etc. The manager (Mr. A. H. Ashcroft) and directors are making every effort to secure fresh premises. In the meantime, a temporary office has been lent at 37 Manor Row, Bradford. The directors appeal to manu-

facturers and wholesalers to help in replacing stocks, so that the chemists in Bradford and district may again be able to make use of the Alliance.

Forthcoming Presentation.—The Somerset Branches of the Pharmaceutical Society and National Pharmaceutical Union have arranged a joint meeting to take place at Weston-super-Mare on Thursday, May 1, to do honour to their former secretary (Mr. Fred Orchard, Highbridge). Presentation of a cheque, together with an album containing the list of donors to the fund, will be made to him by the president of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. W. S. Howells) on behalf of colleagues and friends in the Somerset Branches. It is hoped that members and friends will make a special effort to attend and pay tribute to one who has done so much for pharmacy.

Disinfectant Manufacturers.—At recent meetings of the British Disinfectant Manufacturers' Association the following were elected to serve as officers and executive committee for the year: *Chairman*, Mr. V. G. Gibbs (William Pearson, Ltd.); *Vice-chairman*, Mr. P. J. Bovill (Newton Chambers Co., Ltd.); *Treasurer*, Mr. R. Blair (Burt, Boulton & Hayward, Ltd.); *Auditor*, Mr. R. G. Berchem (Jeyes Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd.). *Executive Committee*: Elected, Messrs. T. C. Berteridge, A. J. Black, A. Dodd, H. W. Mackrill, H. A. Smith, and H. M. Spackman; co-opted, Messrs. E. A. Dussell, R. F. A. Sampson, F. C. Seager, and J. F. Wells.

Plymouth Branch Annual Meeting.—At the recent annual meeting of the Plymouth Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, the following officers were elected: *Chairman*, Mr. W. F. E. Eustace; *Vice-chairman*, Mr. U. Smith; *Secretary*, Mr. A. G. Madge; *Treasurer*, Mr. E. Burrow; *Auditor*, Mr. O. H. Attewell. The chairman and secretary and Mr. Fernley Wallis were also elected representatives to the Plymouth Mercantile Association. The Branch decided not to support a suggestion from the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society that the freedom of advertising by candidates should be curtailed. It was also decided that there should be employee representatives on the Plymouth Pharmacy Liaison Committee. It was agreed to give further support to a suggestion for the formation of a South-west Area Committee embracing the west country branches, Messrs. Hawkins, Eustace and Madge being elected representatives on this committee.

April 8, 1944

tees-side Annual Meeting.—The annual meeting of the Tees-side Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held in Middlesbrough on March 27. Mr. D'Arcy Bray presiding. The chairman made suitable reference to the co-option to the Society's Council of the secretary of the branch (Mr. MacDonald Murray); others supported. The secretary then gave a talk on "First Impressions of Council Work." Discussion followed on the White Paper on a National Health Service. In view of the far-reaching importance of this matter, members of the committee, with additional members from Stockton and Darlington, were asked to meet monthly. The following officers were elected: *Chairman*, Mr. D'Arcy Bray; *Vice-chairman*, Mr. Hollings; *Secretary* and *Treasurer*, Mr. R. MacDonald Murray; *Assistant Secretary*, Mr. Langman; *Auditor*, Mr. T. Scholfield (all re-elected); *Committee*, Messrs. W. R. Brackenbury, Drust, Popper, Gamlen, Moffitt, Pickering, Richardson, W. A. Thompson, Wood and Milpot. The next branch meeting is on April 12 (see p. 387).

Presentations to Ulster Pharmacists.

Prior to the annual meeting of the Ulster Joint Committee of the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John in Belfast recently, Mr. A. W. Mann, Ph.C., M.P.S.I. (treasurer), was presented with a wallet of notes to mark the occasion of his recent marriage. Lord and Lady Londonderry were among those present. LORD DUNLEATH (chairman), who made the presentation, said the Committee owed much to Mr. Mann for the interest he took in the various funds that had been organised. He wished Mr. and Mrs. Mann every happiness. MR. MANN, in returning thanks, spoke of the great kindness he always received at the hands of the committee; he also thanked the staff for a gift of books previously received. At the annual meeting of the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Northern Ireland), held in Belfast on March 25, Mr. Mann (who is the Assistant Commissioner and treasurer) and Mrs. Mann were presented with a silver salver. MR. W. M. BRENNEN, F.R.C.S. (Acting Commissioner), congratulated them on their recent marriage.

PARLIAMENTARY NEWS

Chiropody under N.H.S.—The Minister of Health stated in the House of Commons on March 28 that where the help of a chiropodist was needed in providing the full medical treatment for which the new service would be designed, that help must early be enlisted. So far as any special arrangements were required to secure this he would not hesitate to consult the appropriate organisations.

Importation of Maté.—Mr. G. Strauss asked the Minister of Food on March 23 why the importation to this country of Paraguayan tea, known as yerba maté, was no longer permitted. Colonel Llewellyn, in reply, said the importation of maté became prohibited in 1939. The demand in this country was extremely small, and its value as a food did not justify the use of currency at a time when other more important foodstuffs were excluded for lack of it. He regretted that it was not possible in the present circumstances to allow the importation.

Survey of Scientists.—In reply to a question on March 21 to what extent the Hankey Committee was surveying the post-war requirements of scientific and technological man-power in this country, the Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour (Mr. Tomlinson) said the Committee on Further Education and

Training was engaged upon a comprehensive survey of the probable future requirements for men and women with higher qualifications, including scientific and technical qualifications. He understood that the Committee might make a progress report to the Ministers concerned before long.

Withdrawal of Drug Women.—Mr. Turton asked the Minister of Labour on March 28 whether he consulted the Central Pharmaceutical War Committee before deciding recently to withdraw women born in 1923 and employed as drug women from pharmacy. The Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour (Mr. Tomlinson): No, Sir. To meet the urgent demands for young women for vital services and industries, it was recently decided by the Government that all women born in 1923 should be withdrawn from their present employment, with certain specified exceptions which did not include drug women.

Mr. Turton: Is the Minister aware that the withdrawal of these women will paralyse the health services in certain parts of the country?

Mr. Tomlinson: No, Sir, I am not aware of that.

Mr. Turton: In view of the unsatisfactory nature of that answer, I beg to give notice that I shall raise the matter on the Adjournment.

EMPIRE AND FOREIGN NEWS

Penicillin for Burma.—A shipment of penicillin, valued at £875,000, recently arrived at Calcutta for dispatch to the Burma and China fronts.

U.S. Vitamin-A Committee.—An advisory committee on prices of vitamin-A concentrates has been appointed by the U.S. Office of Production Administration from persons or concerns interested in the fishery and manufacturing aspects of vitamin A production.

Germans "Adopt" Penicillin.—It is understood that the Reich Patent Office has granted to Dr. Theodore Morell and I. G. Farbenindustrie patent rights in the production of penicillin in Germany. The discovery is credited to Dr. Morell, who has been awarded the Knight Cross of the German Merit Order.

European Medical Co-operation.—A European Association of Clinical Pathologists, formed about twelve months ago, now has members drawn from fourteen different European nationalities. The organisation aims to effect between the various countries in the post-war years an interchange of personnel engaged in pathology.

Cartels in North America.—At the Canadian Club, Montreal, on February 14, the United States Ambassador in Canada suggested that abandonment of extreme tariff policies and international policing of cartels would have to be envisaged if the ideals embodied in the Atlantic Charter were to be translated into action. He maintained that North America had suffered from the operation of certain cartels in the past, not only in a military sense but also in the higher prices paid by consumers. In future common measures would have to be taken between the United States and Canada.

Public Relations Committee for U.S. Pharmacy.—An all-inclusive public-relations undertaking has been set up by the drug industry of the United States under a committee of five members. A programme is planned for popularising pharmacy as a profession by informing the public of the services rendered by pharmacy and for endeavouring to secure more and better students at the colleges of pharmacy. A survey of curricula of pharmacy colleges is to be made in co-operation with a committee appointed by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, the National Board of Pharmacy and the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education.

A high place has been accorded to the need for maintaining a supply of pharmaceuticals in the post-war period.

Pyrethrum Ban in South Africa.—Pyrethrum in flower or powder form may be used in South Africa except under permit issued by the Controller of Industrial Chemicals. This new freezing order, which was gazetted on December 10, 1943, places no restriction on the use of pyrethrum for the manufacture of an extract suitable for the destruction of malaria mosquitoes.

South African Stonebass Oil.—Examination by three South African scientists from the South African Fisheries Division and Chemistry Faculty, Cape Town University, of stonebass caught in South African waters has shown that the liver oil of this fish yields an extract ten to twenty times as rich in vitamin A as any fish-liver oil at present on the market.

U.S. Standards for Drinking Water.—The Public Health Service of the United States Government has issued minimum standards for drinking water; the following are among them: *Physical characteristics*: Turbidity not greater than 10 parts per million (silica scale); colour not more than 20 on standard cobalt scale; *Chemical characteristics*: Not more than the following parts per million of the metals indicated: Lead 0.1, arsenic 0.05, selenium 0.05, copper 3.0, iron and manganese 0.3, magnesium 125, zinc 15, acid radicals: fluoride 1, chloride 250 sulphate 250, phenolic compounds in terms of phenol 0.001 parts per million; complete absence of barium, hexavalent chromium, and heavy metal glycosides or other substances with deleterious physiological effects. *Total solids*: Not more than 500 parts per million for a water of good chemical quality; if such water not available, 1,000 p.p.m. permitted. Normal carbonated alkalinity for chemically treated water should not exceed 120 p.p.m., and phenolphthalein alkalinity calculated as CaCO_3 should not exceed 15 p.p.m. plus four times the total alkalinity (pH thus limited to approximately 10.6 at 25°C). Total alkalinity of water softened by lime-soda process not more than 35 p.p.m. above the hardness figure calculated as CaCO_3 . *Coliform bacteria*: Standard portions of 10 mls of water examined at monthly intervals, in accordance with a specified procedure, should not show the presence of coliform organisms in more than 10 per cent. of samples.

April 8, 1944

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

Portionment of Examiners

An important point is raised in the latest annual report of the Government Visitor to the Pharmaceutical Society's examinations for England and Wales (p. 372). "On some occasions," he writes, "two examiners have been in attendance, at others only one. . . . For the Chemist and Druggist final examination the ratio was one examiner for eight candidates at each session; for the Intermediate examination the ratio was one examiner for eight candidates in physics and one examiner for twelve candidates in botany, zoology and chemistry per session." The Visitor points out that at most British universities

at least two examiners are appointed for each subject, "so that the candidate's work can be independently assessed." The assessment referred to is, in fact, a more exacting task than this allusion might suggest. In one university, and probably many, each examiner notes his marks independently, and ultimately the examiners meet and compare their figures so as to remove any discrepancies that may be found in the assessments. This procedure involves anxious thought in view of the bearing of the results on the future of the candidates. As the examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society are approximating to university standards, it is desirable that a reasonable safeguard should be adopted for them as early as possible. The tables appended to your abstract of the Visitor's report need serious consideration. Without entering into much detail, the broad facts are that in the Intermediate examination the 1943 percentage of passes is 39.35; in the Chemist and Druggist Qualifying examination, 35; and in the Pharmaceutical Chemist examination, 61.1. Here is a problem for educationists—and others.

The Pharmacy of Penicillin

War Memorandum No. 12, published under the auspices of the Medical Research Council (p. 369), deals with penicillin from a pharmaceutical as well as from a medical standpoint. It discusses, among other matters, methods of manipulating this substance so as to ensure its adequate application. The pathetic ignorance of some members of Parliament concerning the difficulties in the way of keeping a supply of penicillin in every bathroom is, if my deduction is correct, shared by the general public. Until the war is either ended or much nearer its end, instructed

people cannot suppose that supplies will suffice to do more than meet the needs of the Forces; and I for one shall be sorry if that priority is not firmly adhered to. Further, it must be remembered that surgeons have yet to learn what drawbacks may attend the continued use of penicillin: it is too early to be dogmatic on that aspect. The details given in your summary will no doubt be duly scrutinised by bacteriologists, hospital pharmacists and others qualified to give opinions on them. We have no reason to suppose that the processes recommended for the preparation of penicillin solutions, creams and so forth, are the last word on the subject.

Hawes in "Elia"

William Hawes, M.D., remembered chiefly as co-founder of the Royal Humane Society and as an effective critic of Wesley's "Primitive Physick," makes an appearance in the Elia essay "Amicus Redivivus." The essay is founded on an accident that befell the scholarly and eccentric George Dyer, when in a fit of abstraction he walked into the New River; restoration to his normal condition took place at Lamb's house. The interest of the brief reference, consisting merely of the words "or Dr. Hawes" in parentheses, is that it raises the question whether the one-eyed doctor who was sent for to attend Dyer was either Hawes or his co-founder Cogan. Reading the essay casually, one might wrongly guess that he was either the one or the other. This possibility, however, is negated by the contents of biographical notices of both these pioneers. Moreover, the essayist's description of "Monoculus" is in a vein of banter—"a too wilful application of the plant cannabis outwardly" is a characteristic touch—unlikely to have been used for a regular medical practitioner; and it includes a statement to the effect that the doctor was unqualified. Lamb was too well informed to commit himself to a serious error in matters of fact. Who, then, was this North London doctor? Light is thrown on the incident in the reminiscences of B. W. Procter (Barry Cornwall), published in 1877. Under the date May 17, 1828, Procter gives a first-hand account of the process of revival. It ends: "I left him (Dyer) to the care of Miss Lamb and a sort of itinerant doctor with one eye, who lodged at the public-house hard by. He prescribed nothing but cognac. I suppose for the benefit of the house." **Xrayser**

LEGAL REPORTS

Druggist Bound Over.—Ernest Edward Hartland Homer, druggist, Copnor Road, Portsmouth, who was associated with Mrs. Helen Duncan and others in charges under the Witchcraft Act, 1735 (see *C. & D.*, March 11, p. 274), was on April 3 bound over for two years.

Appeals Dismissed.—In the Court of Criminal Appeal, London, on March 27, the appeal of Myer Newman, a Liverpool dealer and trader, against his conviction at Liverpool and Manchester of conspiracy and receiving (see *C. & D.*, December 18, 1943, p. 614), was dismissed. An appeal against a sentence of four years' penal servitude and a £4,000 fine, with an order to pay costs, was also dismissed. Mr. Justice Humphreys, who presided, said the sentence was not excessive and no fault could be found with the summing-up.

Not a Profession.—The question whether an optician, practising as such after undergoing an apprenticeship and receiving training in hospitals and clinics, and with ophthalmic surgeons, is "carrying on a profession, the profits of which are dependent wholly or mainly upon his personal qualifications," was before Mr. Justice MacNaghten in the Revenue Court of the King's Bench Division, London, on March 22. The point at issue was whether his earnings were liable to excess profits duty or exempted by the definition. The optician (Mr. Ralph Carr) had appealed against an assessment by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue of liability to £141 excess profits tax in respect of a twelve-months' period ended in October 1941. The general commissioners for income tax locally had allowed his appeal, and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue now brought the matter before the Revenue Court, where the finding was that the general commissioners had been mistaken in law in holding that a man who professed to be an optician was carrying on a profession within the meaning of the section; he was carrying on a trade. "A man could test his own sight by seeing whether he could read Bradshaw. If he could not it did not require very much knowledge of lenses or sight to decide what spectacles were required." The appeal by the Crown was allowed, with costs.

Paper Control Contravention.—At Shrewsbury, on March 30, Machin & Rowlands, Ltd., 34 Castle Street, were fined £25, with £5 5s. costs, for causing about 14,000 copies

of an advertising circular to be distributed between April and October 1943, otherwise than in accordance with the Control Paper Order. For the Ministry of Supply who prosecuted, it was stated that the company was incorporated in March 1941, one director (Mr. Machin) being the proprietor of an old-established chemist business, and the other (Mr. Rowlands) engaged in the printing trade. The company was formed to sell certain commodities including Handikleen, a substitute for soap to further the sales of which the company produced an advertising circular. The summons related to the distribution of about 14,000 copies of this circular within the period stated. Under the Order it was illegal to distribute such advertising matter unless it had been printed before November 12, 1941. As the company was not formed until 1942 this requirement was not met. He said that what was done was done quite openly and all assistance asked for by the investigating officer had been given. The prosecution had been brought in order that a penalty might be imposed such as would deter not only the defendants but others. For the defence it was stated that, when the company was formed, Mr. Machin left printing matters in the hands of his fellow director, who was now on service with the Forces. There was little doubt that when Mr. Rowlands considered the position he had before him an earlier Order which permitted the distribution of trade catalogues.

IN THE COURTS

Unlicensed Exports.—At Liverpool, on March 16, a fine of £1,400, with £50 costs, was imposed on L. B. Holliday & Co., Ltd., chemical manufacturers, Huddersfield, who pleaded guilty to having exported a chemical product to Australia, New Zealand and Eire without first obtaining the requisite licence.

Forged Prescription.—At Woking, Surrey, police court, recently, Mrs. A. E. M. Johns, Farnham, was bound over after being charged with obtaining quinine sulphate tablets at Guildford and Farnham by using a forged prescription. As a result of taking the tablets she had been ill for a week or more and had caused severe permanent damage to the optic nerve. The chairman, announcing the verdict, said to the defendant "You appear to have been abundantly punished already."

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TRADE NOTES

Soap Bases.—W. M. Delf & Co., soap and infectant manufacturers, Liverpool, 9, coconut-oil soft-soap, seed-oil soft-soap, and shampoos and liquid toilet-soap in bulk. An announcement appears where in this issue.

Again Obtainable.—Sandoz Products, London, announce that the shortage experienced recently of Bellergal tablets is now ended, and this product may be obtained by chemists in the usual packings of 25, 100, and 1,000 tablets. Addresses for technical inquiries and orders are given on other page.

Sulphamezathine-sodium.—Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals), Ltd., have introduced Sulphamezathine brand of sulphamethylpyrimidine in the form of a stable solution of the sodium salt for intramuscular intravenous administration. The preparation is available in ampoules, each containing the equivalent of 1 gm. Sulphamezathine in 3 c.c. of solution. Packing is in boxes of six and twenty-five ampoules.

Dry Cleaner.—Beaucaire Laboratories, proprietors, Punica, Ltd., London, S.W.8) state that an announcement in our issue of March 25 inviting applications from chemists wishing to act as distributors for Beaucaire dry-cleaning solution appeared in error. Supplies are strictly limited, and new accounts cannot be considered at present.

Price Reduction.—In expressing thanks to pharmacists for the care they have taken to secure a fair distribution of Farex supplies, Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., Greenford, Middlesex, announce that the price reduction of this preparation to the public took effect on April 1. A reduced trade price has operated since March 1. No increase in production is at present possible, and continued co-operation is asked in restricting supplies to infants and invalids taking Farex under doctors' orders.

New Pack.—Pond's Extract Co., Ltd., state that a proportion of their face creams in the 1½-oz. size is now being packed in plain round jars instead of the familiar ovals. The cream content is unchanged, although the new jars appear to be considerably smaller, and retailers are warned not to confuse them with the smaller size, which continues to be issued in the oval-shaped jars. Labels of the new round jars are being overprinted in red, "War-time Pack, Price 2/2½d. (Inc. Purchase Tax)."

Holiday Closing.—Paines & Byrne, Ltd., are closing their offices and works from April 6 until Tuesday morning April 11. A skeleton staff will be on duty on April 8 for urgent orders.—Pharmaceutical Specialities (May & Baker), Ltd., Dagenham, are closing for the Easter holiday from 5.30 on Friday, April 7 until the usual opening time on Tuesday, April 11. Urgent supplies during the week-end can be obtained from John Bell & Croydon, 50 Wigmore Street, London, W.1, or Curtis & Co., Ltd., 79 Baker Street, W.1.

Trade Service in India.—Geoffrey Manners & Co., Ltd., manufacturing chemists, importers and distributors, P.O. Box 76, Bombay, India, offer to manufacturers in this country desirous of developing a market for their goods in India a modern packing-plant under hygienic conditions, air-conditioned where necessary; a tablet-manufacturing plant; distribution throughout India; a comprehensive and up-to-date mailing list of the medical profession and hospitals; and other advantages described in an announcement elsewhere in this issue.

Organic Sulphur Compound.—Following recent interest in the use of certain sulphur containing organic compounds in the treatment of thyrotoxicosis, Organon Laboratories, Ltd., London, W.C.2, have prepared thiouracil and several derivatives. The use of such compounds is at present in an experimental stage and the preparations have not been made available for purchase through the usual commercial channels. The company would welcome inquiries from members of the medical profession who are interested in trying out the substance under suitable controlled conditions. The products are available in the form of 200-mgm. oral tablets.

C. & D. QUIZ NO. 25

1. What is ung. metallorum?
2. What is the derivation of the word calomel?
3. What is strengthening plaster?
4. What is sepiolite?
5. What is lac coactum?
6. What is dita bark?
7. What is soapstone?
8. What product is obtained from the sturgeon?
9. What is pulv. pro pedibus?
10. What is wild cinnamon bark?

(Answers on p. 404)

MARRIAGE

HILL — MUIRCROFT.—At Robb's tea-rooms, Motherwell, on March 29, Samuel Hill, M.P.S., 330 Brandon Street, Motherwell, Lanarks, to Nan Muircroft, Motherwell.

DEATHS

ADAMS.—On March 8, Mr. Joseph Adams, M.P.S., Glen Fern, Syston Hill, Mangotsfield, Glos., aged eighty-three.

Boys.—At St. Mary Bourne, Andover, Hants, on March 30, Sir Charles Vernon Boys, LL.D., F.R.S. Sir Charles Boys was a distinguished physicist; he was known for his work on quartz fibres, on the photography of rapidly-moving objects, and on soap films.

MOODY.—On March 22, Mr. William Edmonson Moody, M.P.S., 26 Westfield Road, Balby, Doncaster, aged seventy-one.

JONES.—Recently, Mr. James Herbert Jones, Warren Road, Prestatyn, aged eighty-six. Mr. Jones was a native of Liverpool, where for many years he carried on business as a chemist at 19 Berry Street. On his retirement he went to live at Gwer-nafields, near Mold, where he served as honorary librarian before the appointment of a salaried librarian. He moved to Prestatyn about eleven years ago. He was unmarried.

RICHARDS.—On March 14, Mr. Benjamin Richards, M.P.S., 593 Fishponds Road, Bristol, aged ninety-one. Mr. Richards was in business at 404 Essex Road, Canonbury, London, N., for nearly forty years.

WALKER.—On March 26, Mr. Alexander Walker, M.P.S., 24 Craighall Road, Trinity, Edinburgh, aged sixty-six.

WESTHEAD.—Recently, Mr. William Westhead, 33 Foss Road North, and Central Dispensary, East Bond Street, Leicester, aged seventy-five. Mr. Westhead was pharmacist to the Leicester Public Medical Service from 1910 until his death.

WHITE.—On February 5, after a short illness, Mr. Robert Shoebridge White, Riversdale, Cape Province, South Africa, aged sixty-nine. Mr. White was born in Yorkshire, qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1898, and after experience in Fleet Street, London, opened his own business at Queen Street, Maidenhead. In 1927, for reasons of health, he emigrated to South Africa. After a year in Cape Town and a year in Hermanus, he settled in Riversdale.

INQUESTS

Strychnine Suicide.—A verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was returned at an inquest at Hereford on March 21 on a large girl at Fullershope, Hereford, who was found dead after taking 120 times the fatal dose of strychnine.

Overdose of Sedative.—At Haywards Heath, on March 23, the East Sussex coroner, at an inquest on Mrs. Jarman M.B.E., Haywards Heath, recorded a verdict that she died from taking an overdose of a sedative (not named) while the balance of her mind was disturbed.

Camphorated Instead of Castor Oil.—At an inquest on a twelve-months'-old baby at Lemington, Northumberland, recently the coroner returned a verdict of "Death due to convulsion caused by gastritis accelerated by a dose of camphorated oil accidentally given by the mother."

Barium Acetate.—At Burnley, on March 30, a verdict of death from misadventure was returned on Edgar Lonsdale, Padiham, who died from gastro-enteritis due, in the opinion of a medical expert, to taking barium acetate in a back-ache powder, which he had been recommended to take. The doctor stated that the substance was rarely prescribed for medicinal purposes, though formerly used for stomach trouble. The coroner said he was satisfied that the man took the mixture innocently, but that death might have been avoided by reasonable care on the part of some other person.

WILLS

MR. DOUGLAS BARNES, 19 Furnham Field, Hatch End, Middlesex, for many years associated with the Acton Pill & Tablet Co., Ltd., left £1,550, with net personalty £463.

DAME HELENA AGNES DALRYMPLE MUSPRATT, The Grange, Fulwood Park, Liverpool, widow of a former chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., left £44,071, with net personalty £42,835.

MR. THOMAS CHARLES CRICKMAY, 34 Harlescott Road, Nunhead, London, S.E.15, a director of Crickmay, Mathias & Pepper, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, 21 South Lambeth Road, S.W.8, left £1,799, with net personalty £1,665.

MR. JOHN REGINALD CLARIDGE JORGENSEN, Sefton, Waldegrave Road, Bickley, Kent, a director of Johnsen & Jorgensen, Ltd., laboratory glassware manufacturers, Farrington Street, London, E.C., left £74,133, with net personalty £63,613.

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COMPANY NEWS

DAVINA SURGICAL APPLIANCES, LTD. (C.).—Capital £100. Manufacturers of all dealers in surgical, scientific and dental equipment, etc. Albert and Henrietta Davies, directors. R.O.: 118 Caunce Street, Blackpool.

TOILET GOODS ASSOCIATION, LTD. (P.C.). Capital £100. To promote an association of manufacturers and dealers in toilet goods and the like; to print and publish books, pamphlets, journals, circulars and trade papers in connexion with the above, etc. Directors not named. R.O.: 1 Guildhall Chambers, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.2.

PER-DE-CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To acquire the business of manufacturing and marketing "Per-De-Co" denture powder, carried on (*inter alia*) at Farnham by Messrs. Christy & Co., Ltd., and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in toilet preparations, etc. Major Cecil B. Christy, Joseph V. Calder, Donald J. Cann, and George M. Roberts, directors. R.O.: Bear Lane, Farnham, Surrey.

HOWARDS & SONS, LTD.—Mr. Arthur W. Elcombe has retired from the board of directors after fifty-three years' service with the company; he will continue to act in a consultative capacity.

STEMCO, LTD.—Mr. F. Stanley Clarke, Ph.C., resigned his seat on the board of directors on March 31, and has retired from active service with the company after nearly a quarter of a century's service.

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 9

MANCHESTER PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Ramble to Chapel-en-le-Frith and Chinley. Meet at Central Station, 8.30 a.m. Book Chinley return.

Wednesday, April 12

GLASGOW AND SOUTH-WESTERN SCOTTISH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Highlanders' Institute, 27 Elmbank Street, Glasgow, at 7.30 p.m. Annual meeting.

TEES-SIDE BRANCHES, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY and NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL UNION, Cleveland Technical Institute, Corporation Road, Middlesbrough, at 5 p.m. Mr. T. Heseltine (chairman, N.P.U.) on "Impending Events in Pharmacy."

Monday, April 17

ROMFORD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Market room, Golden Lion Hotel, Romford, at 7.30 p.m. Annual meeting.

TRADE MARKS

- (From "The Trade Marks Journal," March 8) —
- "SCOFF"; for pharmaceutical preparations for human use (5). By Pectoral Proprietaries, Ltd., The Borough, Hinckley, Leicestershire. B624,185.
 - "AROMOL"; for vermicides, insecticides, disinfectants, antiseptics and deodorisers (5). By Harry Ibbetson, Ib-co Works, Great North Road, Stevenage, Herts. 625,259.
 - "KLUX"; for veterinary substances (5). By J. R. Foulds, Longfield Works, New Street, Idle, Bradford. 625,717.
 - "OLVITA," "PENTAVITE" and "TRIVITA"; for pharmaceutical preparations for treatment of vitamin deficiency (5). By Nicholas Proprietary, Ltd., 10 City Road, South Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. 626,226-27-28.

- (From "The Trades Mark Journal," March 15)
- "KINGPIN"; for chemicals (1), food colouring matters (2), non-medicated toilet preparations, etc. (3), pharmaceutical substances (excluding medicated wines) for human and veterinary use, sanitary substances and disinfectants (5), and for goods (29), (30) and (32). By The General Kaputine Syndicate, Ltd., Fields New Road, Chadderton, Oldham. 622,203/429-34 (Associated).
 - "SALUSAN"; for pharmaceutical gynaecological preparations for vaginal use (5). By R. Demuth, Ltd., 68 Salusbury Road, London, N.W.6. 624,938.
 - "FLORDOL"; for germicides (5). By Siebe, Gorman & Co., Ltd., Davis Road, Tolworth, Surrey. 625,740.
 - "TRISORB"; for all goods (5) except medicated toilet paper. By Quality Chemists, Ltd., Hove Park Laboratories, Hove, Sussex. B626,347.
 - "NYGORS"; for all goods (5). By E. Ratcliffe, 14 Ealing Road, Wembley. 627,178.
 - "DAMANCY" and "HILLCREST" on design of hill with background of sky; for medicinal preparations and pharmaceutical preparations and substances (5). By Damancy & Co., Ltd., 41 High Street, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex. 627,208-09.
 - "KERRIER"; for pharmaceutical preparations and substances (5). By Ashe Laboratories, Ltd., 120-22 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. 627,352.

APPLICATION AMENDMENT

According to "The Trade Marks Journal," March 15, 1944, specification No. 624,704 by Velvet Crepe Paper Co., Ltd., has been altered so as to read "Toilet paper (not medicated) in interleaved packet form."

- (From "The Trade Marks Journal," March 22)
- "CONDOSOL"; for preparations for use in purifying water (1). By Condy & Mitchell, Ltd., 5 Bloomsbury Court, High Holborn, London, W.C.1. 626,075.
 - "ROZEAVI"; for soaps (3). By Whyte, Reid & Mitchell, Ltd., 5 and 7 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, N. Ireland. 626,160.

N.P.U. ANNUAL MEETING

A YEAR of notable work in the interests of pharmacy was reviewed by Mr. T. Heseltine (chairman) in his report to the twenty-third annual meeting of the National Pharmaceutical Union, held in London on March 29. He said:—

We have had an exceptionally busy year and can justly say our efforts on behalf of members have, in the main, been successful. I know members appreciate our efforts: we get ample proof of this at meetings and from letters received at the office. The national position in relation to the war has improved, though members have found war conditions pressing more heavily than before. This has also been the experience of the N.P.U. headquarters, where call-up of staff and lack of substitute labour have made it difficult to deal with the ever-increasing volume of work. It is noteworthy that, in the fourth year of war, service to members has been such as to maintain membership.

War Funds

The value placed on the Air-raid Mutual Assistance Fund is testified by the fact that, despite reduction in the intensity of enemy air attacks during the year, the number of shops in membership increased to 4,371. Reserves against claims, now substantial, may be said, with the £21,855 representing members' loan deposits, to cover any possible contingency. The main purpose in mind when the N.P.U. War Distress Fund was launched was to provide as great a measure of financial assistance as possible for post-war re-establishment to pharmacists forced out of business as a result of war conditions. As the time approaches when that need will arise, it becomes clear that, without maintained generosity from past subscribers and support from new ones, it will not be possible to accumulate a sufficient amount to give really effective help. The amount subscribed to December 31, 1943, was £25,523; £4,321 has been paid out in maintenance grants. The Committee thanks all who have given in the past, and feels assured that the real need that exists will bring further support.

Business Services of the Union

The surplus-stock service has proved useful in the disposal and acquisition between members of goods and equipment which have disappeared from the ordinary commercial channels. The volume of business handled through the service has been maintained. The debt-collection service has

also been used in substantial measure. Owing to call-up, the complete stocktaking service has had to be abandoned, but the co-operative stocktaking service is being continued within the limits of the staff available. The year was the third of "restricted-list" clearance, which had to be introduced because of war conditions, but results prove it to be restricted only in number of firms on the schedule; in every other respect the clearing house has increased. Accounts paid on behalf of members total 380,410; turnover is £4,439,84 against £642,929 in 1942. Members will appreciate that no increase has been made in the charge for this service.

Joint Industrial Council

In May 1943 the N.P.U. received an invitation from the Ministry of Labour to take part in discussions with other employers' organisations and with representatives of employee organisations on the question of establishing a Joint Industrial Council for pharmacy. The discussions resulted in the formation of a National Joint Industrial Council for Retail Pharmacy in December. Whilst the Executive is convinced that the step taken is wise in the interests of employers and employees alike, it is recognised that to many employers the potentialities of the Council may seem more negative than positive so far as their personal interest is concerned. The experience of other sections of retail distribution has been that the stabilisation of conditions of service is advantageous to employer and employee. There is no reason to think that the Council for Retail Pharmacy will do other than provide a basis for a similar experience.

Publications and Organisation

Despite paper restrictions, it has been possible to maintain at their war-time level, in some cases at pre-war level, all N.P.U. publications, including the quarterly price list and monthly Supplement. On a number of occasions during the year it has been found possible to send direct circulars to members. The continued call-up of pharmacists and assistants for H.M. Forces, with other war-time difficulties, has hampered the regular activities of many branches, especially in country districts. In the larger towns and cities regular and reasonably well-attended branch meetings have been held. To secure closer liaison between individual members of the Executive and

Members of the Union, arrangements were made to hold, between October 1, 1943, and March 31, 1944, a district meeting in each of the sixteen electoral areas. It is anticipated that further meetings of this character will be held at regular intervals.

The Executive has considered proposals made by the Local Organisations Officer whereby the whole of the country, especially the more remote country districts, can be satisfactorily covered.

Chemists' Friends Movement

The C.F. movement has continued to progress. In the early part of the year the Council of the Chemists' Friends Association introduced new C.F. window display conditions but, owing to war-time legislation and other difficulties of a temporary character, the conditions have not yet been enforced. The increasing number of manufacturers seeking admission to the list indicates growing strength. The standards committee examines every product submitted for inclusion in the C.F.

Unfortunately some, when first admitted, have not reached the required standard, but in many instances the manufacturers concerned have improved their products or amended their trading policy to gain admission to the list. It is the policy of the Executive to support price maintenance and the provision of an adequate profit; but this in itself is not regarded as a sufficient safeguard for the future. Restriction to chemists of the retail distribution of proprietary medicines is absolutely necessary, and under existing conditions can only be achieved through the C.F. movement.

National Health

During the year drug shortages have given considerable trouble. The National War Formulary has been revised, the British Pharmacopœia and Codex amended by Addenda. The results have been confusing, and the Executive has taken action to minimise the difficulties; steps have also been taken with the appropriate authorities to maintain and increase supplies of certain drugs needed for dispensing purposes. A joint committee of the N.P.U. and Pharmaceutical Society has been considering the proposed National Health Service, and preparing to deal with the pharmaceutical position. The policy of the N.P.U. is that the supply of medicines must be through the pharmacy, and that the terms and conditions of service must be improved. Statutory Rules and Orders not primarily

designed to control any aspect of retail pharmacy have in fact impinged on it in some degree. Every endeavour has been made, prior to the issue of such an Order, to represent to the Government Department concerned the position and claims of the pharmacist, and to secure such protection as is compatible with the aims of the Order and with the public interest. In the field of non-statutory controls operated by Government Departments, reservation of sales to pharmacists of blackcurrant purée and rose-hip syrup, and of a special diabetic tablet, has been secured. The Ministry of Food has indicated its appreciation of the voluntary "rationing" of these commodities and of other infants' and invalid foods by pharmacists. There can be little doubt that if the pharmacist had not exercised a voluntary discretion in the public interest, cumbersome official rationing arrangements, with wastage of man-power, would have been required. The Executive has been in touch with the Board of Trade regarding operation of the Location of Retail Businesses Order, and has taken part in discussions regarding its continuance in the post-war period. It is certain that the Order will be maintained at least for the period covered by demobilisation, but unlikely that it will be a permanent feature of post-war legislation.

Glass Cloths and Overalls

The Board of Trade has renewed for 1944, at the request of the N.P.U., the arrangements under which glass cloths and towels can be obtained by pharmacists for business purposes. During 1943 a large number of certificates was issued, involving a considerable amount of clerical work on the part of the staff. It was a condition of the arrangement that the N.P.U. would undertake free of charge all the detail work involved; this condition was readily accepted, since it was important that pharmacists should have the concession. It is regretted that the Board of Trade has been unable to accept the views of the N.P.U. regarding the provision of overalls, although it appears that pharmacists are now placed high upon the list of persons to whom the concession will be granted when supplies become available.

The provision of medicines for ships of the Merchant Navy is not the everyday business of most members of the N.P.U., but there are a number who specialise in this class of business, and for these the Executive has been active in keeping in touch with the Ministry of War Transport.

A special subcommittee of chemists engaged in supplying medicines to the Merchant Navy was formed; it has secured improvements in various matters and is now consulted by the Ministry when difficulties arise.

The N.P.U. had two representatives on the Central Pharmaceutical War Committee and one only on the retail subcommittee during the major part of the year. Every effort possible under such representation has been made to conserve proprietor pharmacists. The real difficulty has been that the C.P.W.C. has been prevented from treating a business as essential unless the amount of dispensing has been sufficient to make retention of the qualified man imperative.

Finance

The accounts show continued improvement in the financial position. A considerable increase in subscription income was due to two factors: full benefit of an increase in the amount of subscription instituted during 1942 showing for the first time, and a readjustment of the allocation of income and expenses between N.P.U. and Chemists' Defence Association. The N.P.U., whilst taking responsibility for a much larger proportion of administrative costs than formerly, receives a compensating increase in the allocation of the joint subscription. Despite continually rising costs, expenditure has not appreciably increased, though the services of the N.P.U. to its members have been maintained. The only item of expenditure that shows any considerable increase is for repairs and maintenance; the reason is that since the war little has been done and essential repairs to heating plant and machines became necessary during the year. The price list has been maintained at a net cost of over £1,000 per annum. Members will appreciate that, although the credit balance for the year is larger than usual, the amount is not disproportionate to the N.P.U.'s constantly increasing activities.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Mr. W. J. Tristram), moving adoption of the report, thought it indicated how the responsibilities and activities of the N.P.U. had increased and were increasing. Members could take pride in the fact that they had met the obligations and responsibilities which new conditions had imposed upon them. There was no class in the community which was so helped and protected through its organisation as was pharmacy through the N.P.U. MR. J. HEARLE formally seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

THE TREASURER (Mr. A. R. Melhuish) moving acceptance of the accounts, said the financial position was sound. It was a marvel to him that, in the present perilous times, it was possible to report not only a sound position but an improved one. Excess of income over expenditure amounted to £1,517. The small attendance at the meeting was perhaps an indication that the members considered the position satisfactory. MR. W. W. ATKINSON formally seconded the adoption, which was carried.

Executive Committee

THE SECRETARY (Mr. G. A. Mallinson) announced that the elections for the Executive had resulted in the following membership during the coming three years: Messrs E. A. Atkins, W. W. Atkinson, E. Brocklehurst, D. A. Bryan, B. Pugh Davies, A. Dobson, H. B. Coulson, G. H. Graham, J. E. French, J. Hague, J. Hearle, T. Heseltine, H. H. Marshall, A. R. Melhuish, S. J. Stearn, H. Steinman and W. Tristram. Unfortunately there had been an informality in the conduct of an election in the South-western Area, for which neither candidate was responsible, and the Executive had decided to declare the election null and void and to hold a new ballot. The meeting ratified this procedure.

MR. W. W. ATKINSON moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and MR. H. STEINMAN seconded. This THE CHAIRMAN suitably acknowledged.

B.P.C. SIXTH SUPPLEMENT

THE latest (sixth) supplement to the British Pharmaceutical Codex (Pharmaceutical Press, 34 pp., price 2s. 6d.) gives a much-needed table of gauges and requirements for diameters and tensile strength of sterilised surgical catgut, which should have the effect of introducing greater uniformity in the products of the manufacturers of this material; information is also given on methods of sterilisation and storage. New standards for battiste, jaconet and oiled artificial silk, made necessary by the war-time shortage of silk and rubber, are given, and the substances contained in the Sixth Addendum to the British Pharmacopœia, and not previously described in the B.P.C., form the subject of a series of monographs. Many formulas for ointments have been modified, and the amount of alcohol has been reduced in several elixirs, linctuses, mixtures, syrups and tinctures.

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INSURANCE ACT DISPENSING

North-east Midlands.—The number of prescriptions dealt with by the North-east Midlands Prescriptions Bureau in 1943 was 2,281, at a cost of £245,758. The cost of one particular patient to the Drug Fund for the year 1937 was £2,527 for 603 prescriptions; in 1943, £255.

Worcestershire.—During the first six months of 1943 the amount paid to chemists in the area of the Insurance Committee exceeded almost £1,000 the cost in the same period of 1942. Short-term incapacities due to overwork and war weariness have been put forward for a proportion of the increase.

Coventry.—Following representations by the Panel Committee of the Insurance Committee, the closing hours for chemists in various districts of the city were considered recently, in conjunction with a report from the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Committee. No evidence of the absence of a reasonably adequate evening service was found. It was decided to seek further information as to the arrangements for Thursday afternoons and Sundays before reporting further.

Scotland.—Comparative figures showing the number and value of prescription forms dealt with by the Drug Accounts Committee (Scotland) in 1943 and 1942 are given in the table below:—

Authority	1943		1942	
	Forms	Value	Forms	Value
Forty-four Insurance Committees in Scotland		£		£
Ministry of Labour, Northern Ireland	3,464,169	296,533	3,078,793	235,092
	859,218	73,080	766,133	56,069
	4,323,387	369,614	3,865,229	312,258

Drug Tariff.—A new edition of the Drug Tariff, dated January 1944, is now available. It includes a notice that, until August 1, Pricing Offices will price for the standard B.P. ointments and not for the Addendum VI alternatives. There are also lists of eleven new items (eight of which should be kept in stock), one existing item (tinct. belladonna, B.P.) added to those that should be kept in stock; five items that remain in the Tariff but are no longer recommended to be stocked; and four items deleted. Revised prices for February and March have been issued as separate leaflets.

CARLISLE RESOLUTIONS

THE annual meeting of the East Cumberland Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held at Carlisle on March 31. Mr. J. SHARP remarked on the loss the branch had sustained during the year in the death of its chairman (Mr. T. M. Ridley). His extensive knowledge of all branches of the profession would be greatly missed. The names of six other members recently deceased (Messrs. Hunter, Holmes, Sumner, Simpson, Younger and Crowden) were linked with his in a token of respect, the company standing in silence. The following officers and committee were elected: *Chairman*, Mr. J. W. Bowman; *Vice-chairman*, Mr. J. D. Hunter; *Committee*, Messrs. J. R. Ward and I. L. Robson, and Mrs. Brockbank. The remainder of the officers and committee were re-elected. A keen discussion followed on the "White Paper." Mr. WARD was of the opinion that the existing pharmacies were capable of coping with any likely extensions of service for some time to come. Feeling reference to the apathy of pharmacists in general was made by Mr. SHARP, who calculated, from figures given in the White Paper, that the increase foreshadowed in the number of insured persons would bring the dispensing fees up to an average of about £425 per annum per pharmacist. Mr. ROBSON suggested that the joint council should not approach the Minister without a mandate from all chemists. After discussion, it was agreed to forward the following resolution to the Society:—

"That this Branch is of the unanimous opinion that:—

(a) All dispensing, including that for 'out-patients,' should be reserved to pharmacists in existing pharmacies, which are considered to be sufficient to meet any existing or extended services.

(b) Existing dispensing fees should be trebled.

(c) All drugs and appliances should show a normal rate of profit.

(d) All containers should be paid for by the State and non-returnable."

A further hour was spent in considering and discussing the pros and cons of the candidates in the Council election. Several were recommended, but many members felt that most of the candidates were "just so many names," and the following resolution was forwarded to the Council:—

"That this Branch is of the opinion that territorial representation is the only satisfactory form of election."

A collection in aid of the Society's Benevolent Fund realised £3 3s. 6d.



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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

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CXLI APRIL 8, 1944 NO. 3348

The fact that goods made of raw materials are in short supply owing to war conditions are mentioned in this paper or described in its editorial columns should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.

A Year's Good Work

The chairman of the National Pharmaceutical Union (Mr. T. Heseltine, Norman-Ash) was able to look back on a year of useful and solid work by the Executive when he presented his report to the annual meeting of the Union (see p. 388). The full attendance was probably correctly interpreted by the treasurer (Mr. A. R. Hulhuish) at a later stage, when he suggested that this provided evidence of the confidence of members in the way their affairs were being conducted. Certainly no note of criticism was made at the meeting, either of the report or of the Union's financial position, which is even stronger than a year ago.

Mr. Heseltine was able to report that, despite increasing staff difficulties, most of the business activities of the Union had continued unimpaired, and at no extra cost to members, though a curtailment, for the time being, of the full stocktaking service had been unavoidable. The continued growth of the spirit of co-operation among members was evidenced by an increase in membership of the air-aid mutual assistance fund, though the demands likely to be made at the end of the war on the war distress fund may be

greater than the loyal support of existing subscribers could meet. A hint from Mr. Heseltine will no doubt be sufficient to prompt others to contribute or to raise their subscriptions.

An innovation during the year was the organisation of area meetings each addressed by a member of the Executive, and the success of this venture is likely to make it a permanent feature of the N.P.U. year. An encouraging factor to those who pin their faith to the Chemist's Friends scheme has been the growing number of manufacturers who are prepared to modify their trade terms to secure admission to the C.F. list. Besides undertaking to perform a considerable volume of clerical work two of the many activities of the Union have been to secure for chemists the right to obtain glass-cloths coupon-free, and recognition, if not yet overalls, of the claim of the chemist for some extra protection for his clothing by reason of the goods he has to handle. Commendable enterprise has also been shown by the Executive—though this was not mentioned by the chairman—in issuing to every branch secretary a copy of the Government's White Paper on Health. All told, the way in which the N.P.U. has surmounted its difficulties in the fifth year of war is a good augury of what it will be able to do for proprietor chemists when peace returns.

The Nation's Health

ONE of the surest indications of the rise and fall of the incidence of disease is the information periodically provided by vital statistics (i.e., returns of death rates, birth rates, etc.). Figures recently quoted by the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health give the provisional death rate for 1943 as 12.1 deaths per 1,000, a return identical with that for 1939 and lower than for any full war year except 1942. A still lower figure would have been achieved but for the influenza epidemic which occurred late in the year. During the first months of 1944, satisfactory figures are again indicated, especially for January, when births are stated to have exceeded deaths—an occurrence unusual during the early part of the year, when serious illness usually puts up the death rate. The infant mortality

rate for 1943 was at a provisional level of 50 per 1,000 live births—a record figure, which is made especially interesting by the fact that the birth rate itself is higher and the still-birth rate lower than usual.

Infectious Diseases

The table below, just issued by the Ministry of Health, shows at a glance the rise and fall in incidence of the principal infectious diseases during the early weeks of the war years. It should be noted that the figures represent total cases in England and Wales for the first twelve weeks of the year, except in the "influenza" column, which gives deaths in London and the great towns only.

Jan. 1- Mar. 18	Scarlet fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Influenza	Whooping cough	Measles
1944	24,125	8,190	14,401	1,055	23,250	15,334
1943	24,537	10,141	16,137	1,008	20,098	196,217
1942	13,634	11,004	14,334	828	16,951	20,983
1941	14,884	13,500	18,920	2,130	39,714	189,501
1940	12,568	8,496	22,120	4,457	6,989	46,578
1939	20,075	13,938	18,673	2,665	Not notifiable until 1940	

Diphtheria and Smallpox

Progress in the campaign against diphtheria is indicated by the fact that, during 1943, deaths from this disease reached a new low level, being some 30 per cent. fewer than in the previous year. A recent small outbreak of smallpox in the London area now appears to be over; eleven cases were notified and three deaths resulted. Of the fatal cases, two had never been vaccinated, while the third had been vaccinated in infancy. Two previously unvaccinated contacts were immediately vaccinated; both developed modified attacks and recovered—an indication of the value of vaccination in combating this disease.

Tap Water

THE quality and continuity of the local water supply are matters about which pharmacists cannot afford to be indifferent. If there are any who have tended to take it too much for granted, difficulties of supply are likely to have been brought home recently by shortages resulting from (a) war damage to mains or (b) the prolonged

drought that even yet, despite the advent of rain in some parts, can hardly be said to have ended.

A Good Record

For so lengthy a period have the statistics of infections attributable to defects in the water supply offered no ground for anxiety that it comes almost as a surprise to recall that the Metropolitan Water Board was formed so recently as 1902, and still manages to realise that large rural areas, housing probably in total as many as 2,000,000 people, are without a properly organised water supply even today. Much has been done during the war by the War Emergency Water Committees, which have taken steps to enable water to be diverted from one authority to another, while emergency plants have been set up capable of being used anywhere in a region. Nevertheless it remains true that many potential uses have been, as the "Lancet" puts it, "refused the reasonable comforts of civilisation," and that an uphill fight has been waged by would-be reformers. "Hope for the waterless dawned again on February 2 when Mr. Speaker allowed Mr. Levy, who had 'talked water' for years, to block the local Bill with an appeal for a national scheme which at once captured the imagination of the House." The Minister of Health during the debate referred to, promised an early Bill to deal with rural water, and a White Paper setting out the results of an inland water survey now almost completed.

National Supply Difficulties

The difficulties in the way of securing a national water supply are technical and economic. Neither kind is insuperable. It may not be practicable to provide a grid system such as is used for electricity or gas, because the pumping apparatus required would be disproportionately costly and cumbersome. Even pipe-lines, as used for oil, have their limitations. But the annual rainfall in the British Isles provides more than enough water for all purposes, and modern chlorination or ozonising processes can quickly render any locally-collected water suitable for drinking. Some controls need to be instituted, perhaps, over the sinking of private wells. Water cannot necessarily be regarded as the monopoly of

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supply organisation, but it is certainly the property of the people as a whole and not small groups. An anomalous position arises from the fact that a private concern may sink a new well, but a public supply undertaking must put through a Parliamentary Bill in order to do so. The "water rate" has been lowered in London as the result of private wells sunk, and though the present effects may not be serious, and the system may have compensating advantages for industry, the position needs at least to be watched. There is, moreover, a good argument for levelling the charges for water in all areas. To give effect to such a reform, there would probably have to be a smaller number of water undertakings, and greater co-operation between them—perhaps the War Emergency Committees could continue after the war. When it is borne in mind that, to consider only the pharmacist's point of view, the rates paid for work done by the Government are uniform throughout the country, there seems little justification for such differences as that (a) users in a rural area may pay a high price; (b) users in urban areas a much lower one; and (c) certain large industrial users possibly none at all for water beyond the cost of sinking a well.

Quality Standards

On the question of standards of purity, a significant advance has been made by the Public Health Service of the United States, which has laid down minimum standards or limits of coliform bacteria, turbidity, colour and chemical constituents in drinking water (see p. 382). The question whether water stills should be fitted in pharmacies has been discussed recently in these columns and the consensus of opinion appears to be that they are unnecessary in present conditions. The Pharmacopœia countenances the use only of distilled water except in a list of preparations given in the Fourth Addendum. For these "suitable potable water" may be used. In some pharmacies it has been the custom to use distilled water exclusively in private dispensing. However, the Drug Tariff recognises no charge for water and the National War Formulary states specifically "Where the term 'water' is used in this Formulary or in a prescription

without qualification, it is to be interpreted to mean ordinary potable water." If there are pharmacies in districts where only distilled water meets the requirement, they are under an unnecessary handicap. With the war-time advances that have been made in oxygenating and presenting water for drinking purposes, the time may not be far distant when it will be practicable to lay down uniform minimum standards for the whole of Britain, and the end of the war should see great strides made towards the universal availability of a pure, "bright" water for drinking and all vital purposes.

Empty Bottles

IN Scotland, according to a correspondent, chemists are being criticised for refusing to accept empty bottles brought in by customers. Accumulations of empties or nearly-empties in pantries and medicine-chests are apt to arouse feelings of guilt in the householder under the impact of salvage propaganda. Such feelings may change to impatience with any chemist who refuses to take the lot—a result that has been experienced by pharmacists in England and Wales as well as North of the Border. Nevertheless, the fact is that, apart from bottles which can be used in their own pharmacies, chemists are in no better position than other citizens for disposing of bottle salvage.

Reasons for Non-acceptance

There are various reasons for refusing bottles returned as empties. Some are too dirty. Medicines are frequently allowed to remain in the bottle for a lengthy and indefinite period, as a result of which the contents may attack the glass. Only by using strong chemicals can the bottles then be cleaned. This means wastage of time and materials, neither of which can now be spared by the chemist or his assistant. Proprietary medicine bottles returned are of no value because they are usually of non-standard size, while too often a screw cap is corroded to an extent that would contaminate any contents that came in contact with it. Sauce bottles, jam jars, and the like are often handed in in the mistaken belief that the chemist can make use of them.

Actually clean, standard-sized medicine bottles are welcomed by most chemists and paid for readily at standard rates, but stress must be placed on the word "clean." Even when a bottle appears to be clean, its re-use for medicine may reveal discoloration, and as this may involve chemical action the mixture cannot be handed to the patient in that condition. As a guide to customers, a notice in the window urging them to bring only bottles that (a) bear the chemist's own label; (b) are returned as soon as emptied; and (c) are clean, may save much misunderstanding. One chemist known to us goes so far, even with bottles returned by National Health Insurance patients, as to point out that "clean condition" is stipulated on the back of the prescription form, and to refuse them unless they meet the requirement. "As to whether the bottle is clean or not, I am the judge," he says. Certainly tact is desirable in this as in every other transaction, but given absolute fairness in deciding, and similar action by other pharmacists, there is every reason to believe chemists can resolutely refuse unsuitable empties without inviting the accusation that they are acting unpatriotically.

Your Vote

THE first election since 1940 of members of the Pharmaceutical Society's Council will provide the electorate with the means of expressing their views on current affairs. The contestants, some forty for seven vacant seats, are a "mixed bunch," and no pharmacist should be at a loss in finding and supporting candidates whose views coincide with his own. We hope that the poll on this occasion will be sufficiently comprehensive to be properly representative of pharmacy, and we would urge members to record their votes, if they have not already done so. In this connexion it is interesting to refer back to the polls of the election years from 1934-40, when it is seen that the numbers of returned papers, although remarkably consistent, never reached 50 per cent. of those issued. The figures are as follows (numbers issued in brackets): 1940, 7,017 (23,077); 1939, 10,700 (25,422); 1938, 9,419 (22,986); 1937, 9,476 (22,195); 1936, 9,822 (21,763); 1935, 9,552 (21,230); 1934, 9,656 (20,923).

NEW BOOKS

Banham's Veterinary Posology.—6½ in. by 4 in. Pp. 206. 12s. 6d. Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 7 Henrietta Street, London, W.C.2. This useful book, revised by W. J. Ironside M.P.S., M.R.C.V.S., has now reached its seventh edition. In addition to posological tables there are lists of poisons and antidotes, trade names and table of diseases of animals and suggested therapeutics. A list of the more important parasites of the domesticated animals makes the book of great use to the retail chemist as well as to the veterinary practitioner.

Extra Pharmacopœia.—7 in. by 4½ in. Pp. 1217. 27s. 6d. The Pharmaceutical Press, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London W.C.1. The enlarged new edition of Volume II of "Martindale" contains much new matter. The greatly increased number of organic compounds used in chemotherapy and the large amount of research done on the relationship between chemical constitution and physiological activity give special interest to the well-written account of the nomenclature of organic compounds. A study of the clinical and bacteriological notes, analysis of blood, urine, milk, foods, water and disinfectants helps the pharmacist to discuss these and related subjects with medical men. The formulas of proprietary medicines have been increased in number and the disclosure of their constituents, made compulsory by recent legislation, has enabled the compilers to provide authoritative information by reference to the formulas published by the makers. A Supplement to the Extra Pharmacopœia, Vol. I, has just been issued by the Pharmaceutical Press (pp. 48, 2s.). It brings up to date the changes made by the addenda of the Pharmacopœia and the Codex. The preparations of the National War Formulary (1943) and the recent changes in the United States Pharmacopœia XII and the American National Formulary VII are also included. The recent Orders, etc., affecting supplies of drugs, etc., bring this subject up to date. Some new proprietary names have been added to those which are already included in Volume I.

CLOSED ON SATURDAYS.—Advertisers and subscribers are reminded that owing to war conditions the Head Office of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 28 Essex Street, London, W.C.2, is closed on Saturdays until further notice. Urgent instructions relating to advertising and subscriptions should be sent to the C. & D., 17 Argyle Street, Bath, Somerset.

RECENT RESEARCH

Photomicrography with Ordinary Cameras. Leak, in the "British Medical Journal" (43. II. 787), gives a description of a method of obtaining photomicrographs without elaborate equipment, depending on the fact that a camera will photograph "virtual" as easily as a "real" image. Trial views of thick sections are taken simply by moving the fine adjustment a definite amount on each occasion. Possessors of binocular microscopes may set the camera semi-permanently over one eyepiece, viewing down the other and snapping as often as wanted.

Desensitisation of Dentine.—The successful use of sodium fluoride for the desensitisation of exposed dentine is reported from the United States by Hoyt and Bibby (see "Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association," practical pharmacy edition, 7. II. 350). A pledget of cotton-wool is moistened with 4 per cent. aqueous solution of sodium fluoride to give a preliminary meaning. After isolating the area with cotton rolls and removing free moisture, a paste consisting of equal parts of sodium fluoride, kaolin and glycerin is applied by means of a small plastic instrument and rubbed vigorously on the sensitive surface until all sensation disappears (usually from one to five minutes).

Assay of Sulphonamides in Mixtures.—The principal chemical reaction employed for the quantitative estimation of "sulpha" drugs involves the diazotisation of the aryl amino group. By coupling the diazonium salt and production of an azo dye, the compound may be estimated colorimetrically and the sensitivity greatly increased. Free sulphanilamide and acetylated sulphanilamide have different absorption characteristics in the range 310 to 360 μ , and a unique fluorometric method for the estimation of each has been devised (Englis and Skoog, "Industrial and Engineering Chemistry," Analytical Edition, December 1943). A special problem is the determination of sulphanilamide and sulphathiazole when present together in a mixture. It seemed probable that these compounds would show markedly different absorption characteristics in the ultra-violet range, and that the determination of each could be accomplished by a physical method without separation of the constituents. It has previously been demonstrated that a colour system of two components may be quantitatively analysed, even if both

components show absorption at the selected wave-length, provided the degree of absorption is sufficiently different, and the sample represents a definite total amount of the two constituents only. By an extension of the general principle the method may be used for more than two components. The extinction coefficients of each pure component are determined at selected wave-lengths, which give the widest differences in absorption of one from the other components. The extinction value of the mixture is then determined at the selected wave-lengths, and the proportions of the various constituents are calculated from the data by solving a series of simultaneous equations. A method is developed for the analysis of the sulpha drug mixture.

U.S. Cough Mixture for Children.—The following formula for a children's cough mixture is suggested in the "Archives of Pediatrics" (60. 2. 88):—

Liquid extract of liquorice	..	120
Syrup of ipecacuanha	..	100
Camphorated tincture of opium	..	120
Spirit of chloroform	..	20
Distilled water to make 1000 c.c.		

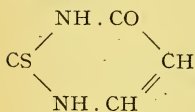
Dose: $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 teaspoonfuls every three hours, according to age.

The formulator claims that the spirit of chloroform acts as a local anaesthetic to the throat, the paregoric lessens the sensitivity of the cough reflex, the syrup of ipecacuanha serves as an expectorant, and the liquorice tends to overcome the constipating effect of the paregoric.

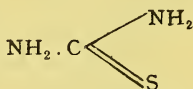
Mechanical Stability of Emulsions.—A rapid quantitative method for determining the mechanical stability of emulsions, devised by Merill ("Industrial and Chemical Engineering," Analytical Edition, December 1943) involves measuring the rate of separation of internal phase under a constant centrifugal force. The reciprocal of the initial rate of separation at a constant centrifuge speed is taken as a quantitative index of the mechanical stability of the emulsion. The method has been applied to both water-in-oil and oil-in-water emulsions stabilised by lecithin, soaps and vegetable gums. It gives results in a few hours apparently comparable to those obtained by more tedious methods involving other factors and requiring measurements over many months. Definite effects of the age of the emulsion on its mechanical stability, as determined by the method, have been found in soap and saponin-stabilised emulsions.

HYPERTHYROIDISM TREATED WITH DRUGS

FOR many years the thyroid gland has attracted attention from both physiological and medical standpoints. The brilliant synthesis by Harrington and Barger of thyroxine, the active principle of the gland (now included in the British Pharmacopœia) brought the subject within the sphere of the organic chemist. Hitherto, attention has been focused mainly on the functioning of the thyroid gland in relation to hypothyroidism, i.e., on cases in which the gland is not sufficiently active. In the treatment of hyperthyroidism, the condition arising from excessive thyroid activity, surgical intervention has usually been considered necessary, but recently a method of drug therapy, using the compounds thiouracil and thiourea, has been suggested. The chemical formulæ of these compounds are as follows:—



Thiouracil



Thiourea

The Gland and its Function

The thyroid gland is situated in the neck, an isthmus supporting the two lobes on either side of the trachea. The lobes are usually not longer than about 2 in. except in such abnormal conditions as hyperthyroidism. The gland contains four chemical compounds: thyroxine, di-iodotyrosine, di-iodothyroidine and iodothyroglobulin. The iodine which is in chemical combination in the gland varies in weight between 10 mgm. and 15 mgm. The gland releases a hormone into the blood stream, and this has been investigated by Harrington, who considers that the substance is possibly a peptide containing di-iodotyrosine and di-iodothyroidine. The hormone is produced in the colloid matter of the gland, and its function is to aid in the oxidation processes of the body. The anterior lobe of the pituitary body, situated at the base of the brain, furnishes the thyrotropic hormone—the thyroid gland activator—and it has been observed that an inactive or absent thyroid gland causes enlargement of this lobe of the pituitary. Similarly, an increase of thyroid activity reduces the anterior lobe dimensions.

Treatment of hyperthyroidism with thiouracil or thiourea is controlled by

determinations of the basal metabolic rate approximately every ten days. By this means a dosage is arrived at which maintains the patient at normality. To determine the basal metabolic rate, the patient is fed with air enriched with oxygen. The carbon dioxide exhaled is absorbed in soda lime. Meanwhile the volume of oxygen “fed” and used by the patient is noted. Thus the necessary data for any particular case would be:—

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| (a) Sex. | (e) Volume of oxygen consumed per min. |
| (b) Age. | (f) Temperature. |
| (c) Weight. | (g) Barometer reading. |
| (d) Height. | |

The calculation is proceeded with in several steps: (1) To correct the volume of oxygen to normal temperature and pressure. (2) To apply a correction by reference to a chart which is based upon age and sex, e.g., for females subtract 7 per cent. Thus a figure is obtained and compared with the standard normality figure of the patient's age and sex. Then the B.M.R. is expressed as a percentage increase or decrease of the standard corrected volume of oxygen consumed per minute. Opposite is a chart showing types of results obtained from normal and thyroid diseased cases. The figures are taken from Boothby and Sandiford, 1924.

Goitrogenic Properties Explained

J. B. and C. G. Mackenzie and McCollum (1941), who were at that time engaged upon determining the toxicity of sulphaguanidine on rats, showed that the dead animals had goitres, and furthermore that the thyroid tissue showed hyperplasia and loss of colloid tissue. Richter and Clisby (1942) confirmed that other sulphur-containing compounds, in particular thiourea and thiouracil, possessed goitrogenic properties, and Kennedy (1942), who was engaged upon investigating the constituents of rape seed, used allyl-thiourea, which confirmed the effect from this class of substances. In 1943 the investigations of two groups of workers suggested the mode of action of a drug which can produce goitre in the normal person and disperse goitre in the hyperthyroid subject. It has been found that, following injection of thyrotropic hormone, hyperthyroidism can be prevented by the administration of thiouracil or thiourea. This suggests that these substances interfere with the production in the body of the thyroid hormone. A number of cases have been successfully treated with both com-

Condition	No. of cases	Percentage range							
		Below - 20	- 20 to - 16	- 15 to - 11	- 10 to + 10	+ 11 to + 15	+ 16 to + 20	Above + 20	- 15 to + 15
		per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Healthy ...	72	—	—	6	84	9	1	—	99
Enema with hyperthyroidism	346	—	—	—	—	22	13	65	—
Questionable hyperthyroidism	42	31	24	19	26	—	—	—	45

every-day drugs in the hands of the general practitioner, but sufficient has been said to enable the pharmacist to discuss the matter should he be called upon to do so by his medical clients. The dosage of thiouracil is gr.

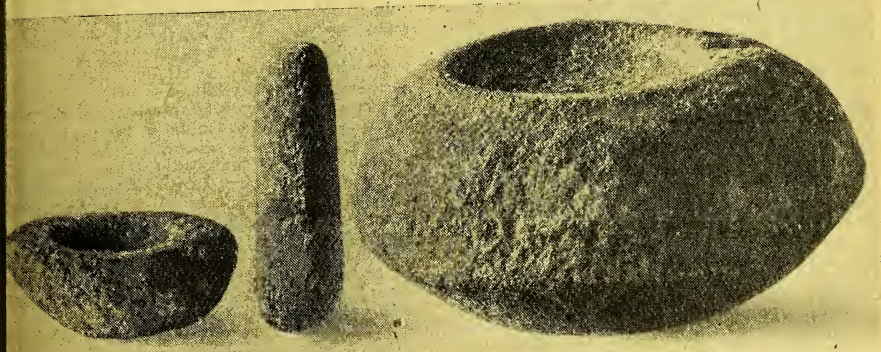
ounds, and it is interesting to note that normal person, given one of these chemical substances, shows a tendency to develop a titre. Other effects also follow. More evidence will have to be forthcoming before thiourea and thiouracil become

1½ five times daily for ten to fourteen days, by which time response should be apparent. After three weeks the basal metabolic rate is noted and the dosage adjusted. A B.M.R. determination is necessary every ten days to maintain control.

TWO PREHISTORIC MORTARS

A PAPER on "Two Prehistoric Mortars" was read by MR. A. D. LACAILLE, F.S.A., before the Society of Antiquaries recently. The mortars referred to are preserved in the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum,

The Magdalenian mortar shows much absorption of a red pigment. The staining is deepest inside and immediately around the basin which, though pitted, appears not to have seen much service. Evidently the raw colouring matter was pounded up



London, and are illustrated on this page. On the left is shown a mortar and its pebble (pestle) recovered by the late Mr. I. G. Marsden at a prehistoric working site at the Greb, Sennen, Cornwall. It is made of felspathic greenstone. The larger mortar of sandstone on the right came from La Madeleine-de-Tursac (Dordogne). Neither of these mortars is large enough to have served in the preparation of food, and it cannot be doubted that they were used by artists for pulverising mineral pigments.

with a greasy substance—doubtless animal fat—in the depression. Its condition testifies to the well-known resistance of fatty substances to decomposition, especially when deprived of air. The Cornish mortar has a deeply worn elliptical cavity, the smoothness at its centre providing evidence of constant milling by a firmly held grinder.

Acknowledgment is made to the Director of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum for the loan of photographs.

M.O.H. BULLETIN TO PHARMACISTS

THE following abstracts are taken from the second Ministry of Health's Bulletin to Pharmacists, issued by arrangement with the Pharmaceutical Society:—

Notes on Diphtheria

PREVENTION is always better than cure and this is particularly true in so serious a disease as diphtheria. The measures of isolation, disinfection and the like played a part in reducing diphtheria, but a point was reached beyond which no further success could be obtained. This was because exposure to diphtheria infection at some time or another was inevitable. At the point at which the measures imposed by authority fail, individual immunisation and the personal co-operation of the public must be invoked. In no other instance in this field of prophylaxis has effort been crowned with more brilliant success. Behring was the first to use toxin-antitoxin mixture in man to produce active immunity. This T.A.M. was successful, though not entirely so.

In 1924 Park and his co-workers found that if diphtheria toxin stood a long time, it changed into toxoid, which is non-toxic but has the same combining power with antitoxin as the toxin from which it is derived. This change could also be made by heat or by the action of formal, and the resultant toxoid (F.T.) gave very good immunising results. An additional advantage of this material was that it contained no serum. Another prophylactic was developed by mixing carefully-balanced doses of toxoid and antitoxin, producing toxoid-antitoxin floccules (T.A.F.) which have a special use in immunising adults, although several doses are often required. But the greatest success has been obtained with alum precipitated toxoid (A.P.T.). It is generally recommended that two doses of A.P.T. should be given a month apart.

What can we say of the results of prophylaxis? It has never been claimed that immunisation gives absolute protection, but it is proved unquestionably that the disease can be defeated by a high percentage of immunisation. It has been calculated that the incidence of diphtheria amongst immunised children is one-fifth of that amongst non-immunised children, while the mortality ratio was 1 : 25. The most recent report of the Ministry of Health recorded that the year 1942 was a good one in the fight against diphtheria. While this was encouraging it was admitted that the turning point had not been reached: the decrease might be due in part to the ordinary periodicity shown by infectious diseases. The authorities have always encouraged the notification of doubtful cases so as to ensure that no possible cases of diphtheria should fail to have the benefit of hospital treatment. The result of this has been that a number of cases notified have not been confirmed as diphtheria. A method of correcting these figures has now been introduced and the result is that we will get a truer picture of the actual incidence of

diphtheria, but this will have the effect of producing an apparent rise in the mortality rate.

Another line of attack is described in W Memorandum No. 11, which has just been issued by the Medical Research Council. It is based on the need for preventing cross-infection in hospitals, of averting any possibility that child entering a hospital contracts diphtheria from another patient. Unremitting efforts to get all children in this country immunised against diphtheria must continue. Here the pharmacist can play a valuable part. His advice is disinterested and carries with it the weight of his professional standing. It is surprising how little encouragement the thoughtless parents do require, but it does seem to be necessary to address them directly.

Malaria in Britain

DURING and after the war, troops and civilians will be returning to this country infected with malaria. Since the carrier of malaria, the anopheles mosquito, is found to a greater or lesser degree all over Great Britain, it is practically certain that indigenous cases will occur here. Measures have already been taken by the Ministry of Health and the Service Medical Departments, e.g. by posting personnel returned from malarious areas in districts comparatively free from anophelines; by forming panels of consultants who are familiar with the disease; and by the issue to all practising doctors of a memorandum on its diagnosis and treatment.

Malaria is a disease caused by plasmodia parasites and is characterised clinically by recurrent attacks of fever and by anaemia. It is widely distributed in temperate, sub-tropical and tropical countries, prevalence depending on climatic conditions favourable to the development of the parasite and the presence of anopheline mosquitoes and infected hosts. Of the several species of anopheline mosquitoes to be found in this country, *A. maculipennis*, owing to its domestic habits, is the most likely to become a carrier of malaria. This species breeds in brackish marshes, fresh-water lakes and even slow-moving rivers; the most dangerous variety, *atroparvus*, definitely prefers brackish to fresh water. The adult females enter dwellings, soon after emerging from the water stage, to feed on human beings or animals. The malaria parasite cannot affect man unless conveyed to him by the anopheles mosquito. Three species of malaria parasites can cause fever in man. *Plasmodium vivax* causes benign tertian malaria; *Plasmodium malariae*, quartan malaria; *Plasmodium falciparum*, malignant tertian. A typical attack has three stages: (1) Prodromal; (2) paroxysmal; and (3) apyrexial.

Treatment consists of the administration of quinine, mepacrine or pamaquin. Drug treatment should be started immediately the diagnosis is made and the action of the drugs assisted by the ordinary routine measures adopted in the treatment of all fevers. Ten grains of quinine sulphate or hydrochloride should be administered orally in solution thrice daily for seven

s, and this will usually suffice to arrest a ple attack. If mepacrine is used, 0.1 gm. in et form is administered three times a day mediately after food for five to seven days. Two drugs may be combined by giving nine for three days followed by mepacrine for to seven days. In relapsing cases these rses can be followed up after an interval of east three days by pamaquin 0.01 gm. thrice y for three days. Unconscious patients and se showing pernicious symptoms must be en quinine by injection. Ten grains of the ydrochloride dissolved in 20 mils of sterile mal saline are injected intravenously and eated after four to six hours if necessary. The al parenteral dose for twenty-four hours is 30 ins. Oral administration should be substi- ed as soon as possible. Mepacrine can also be nistered by injection as mepacrine methane- onate, but toxic symptoms are sometimes uced. Both quinine and mepacrine are used ensively for prophylactic treatment. Quinine usually administered in five-grain doses daily, ile mepacrine is given either in 0.1 gm. doses ly or 0.2 gm. twice a week. The continued of mepacrine is apt to produce a harmless ow pigmentation of the skin. Preventive asures include: (1) Protection of patients d susceptible population against mosquitoes e screening houses, use of mosquito nets and ellent agents; (2) administration of pro- ylactic drugs; (3) destruction of adult mos- ytoes in dwellings by spraying with insecti- es and of larvae by draining or oiling the eeding places. "Malaria is a preventable ease, but its prevention requires knowledge, ergy, persistence and money." It will be one e greatest—probably the greatest post-war oblem of world health.

Milk and Vitamin C

BEFORE the next of these Bulletins is published, dsommer will have passed and we shall (rhaps) be enjoying much warmer weather. ltry days and nights produce problems of food rage and, as every housewife knows, the most ficult food to keep from "going off" is milk. art from the obvious deterioration of souring, invisible loss can take place by the destruc- on of vitamin C by light. The public have en warned to keep milk bottles out of the ect rays of the sun on this account. Of urse, milk is not a rich source of vitamin C, d indeed, if a good mixed diet is being taken, ilk would be low down the list of sources of C; ill, the Therapeutic Requirements Committee id ascorbic acid must be used with strict onomy and all natural sources of vitamin C ust be carefully husbanded and any wastage evented.

Pasteurisation reduces the vitamin C content; ost authorities are agreed that the loss is out one-fifth—but where children are in the usehold, the advantages of using either T.T." or pasteurised milk certainly outweigh e disadvantages. Milk is an ideal medium for owing bacteria, and thus can be a most potent ehicle of infection not only of tuberculosis but f scarlet fever, enteric, dysentery and many

types of gastro-enteritis. Not only should the milk be clean when purchased but it should be kept from becoming contaminated. When supplied in a bottle it should be kept in the bottle. If it must be poured into a jug, this should be scrupulously clean, preferably scalded just before use. The container should always be covered, preferably with close-mesh muslin, and kept cool—for example, by standing in a dish of cold water. Whenever the chemist is told by a mother that her infant or child has an attack of diarrhoea, his thoughts should first turn to the possibility of milk-borne disease.

Modern Views on Gonorrhoea

OF the various venereal diseases—at least seven in number—gonorrhoea is the commonest in this country, where it is judged that six new infections with it occur for every one with syphilis. Infection of the genito-urinary tract of an adult is almost always by sexual intercourse, but might conceivably be caused in a female by the use of a contaminated douche nozzle.

The importance of gonorrhoea as a public health problem is derived largely from its complications and sequelae. This may be understood when it is explained that every inflammation to which the gonococcus gives rise is accompanied by the formation of much scar tissue, and scar tissue always contracts and distorts. Diagnosis is especially a matter of microscopic and cultural examination of the discharges from the affected surfaces. It must be remembered that other infections or even only chemical irritation through the blood stream can cause signs of discharge and discomfort similar to those seen in gonorrhoea, and, on the other hand, there may be no sign of inflammation in a cervix in which microscopical tests disclose innumerable gonococci. Between these two extremes are all degrees of disorder in which the presence or absence of a gonococcal infection can be determined only by laboratory tests. Treatment was revolutionised by the introduction of chemotherapy with sulphonamide compounds. Of these, the most efficient at the moment are sulphathiazole and sulphadiazine, and probably by one or at most two short courses of treatment by either of these, covering a period of one to three weeks, over 90 per cent. of patients can be cured. A residuum of treatment-resistant infections is left, and, after disposal of a certain percentage that are due to bad drainage of foci of infection or to indifferent resistance of the patient, there is left a hard core in which the gonococci themselves are naturally resistant to the action of these drugs. In a certain number of these cases the resistance can be overcome by artificially raising the patient's temperature and maintaining it so for a number of hours whilst the patient is under the influence of a potent sulphonamide. Such methods are, however, troublesome and not over-pleasant for the patient, and it may well be that the treatment of these resistant cases in the near future will be by injection of penicillin.

Up to Average.—The quantity of waste paper salvaged so far. Still more is required.

TRADE REPORT

Spot quotations for pharmaceutical chemicals, crude drugs and essential oils represent the prices for wholesale quantities of standard quality. C.i.f. quotations do not include marine war risk insurance and other abnormal charges payable in the present emergency.

28 Essex Street, W.C.2, April 5

As might be expected just before the holiday break, general business in the London drug and chemical markets has declined to a low level. Some individual products are receiving a fair amount of attention, but no important business is reported. Prices continue firm, with changes confined to small movements without significance. Business in the PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS section has been no more than of recent average amount, with no important price changes. CRUDE DRUGS have remained fairly steady, with some inquiry, especially for items in short supply. ALOES continues to be difficult, with no Cape and very little Curaçao available. BENZOIN is selling slowly for pharmaceutical purposes. English-grown and Portuguese DIGITALIS LEAVES are steady at the prices last quoted. Interest in ERGOT is fairly well maintained, but spot supplies are restricted. Further supplies of Russian LIQUORICE root may be had for pharmaceutical purposes. Supplies of MENTHOL are becoming increasingly difficult to find. RHUBARB is firmly held at the prices quoted last week. Imported SEEDS are quiet. As noted last week, fatty grey CARNAUBA WAX is dearer on spot, but unchanged for shipment. Nothing of importance has transpired in ESSENTIAL OILS. The Ministry of Food announces only one change in the existing prices of unrefined oils and fats and technical animal fats allocated to primary wholesalers and large trade users during the five weeks ending May 6: an increase of £15 per ton in the price of RAPESEED.

The usual periodical return of drugs and medical products is again being requested by the Directorate of Medical Supplies. The list of drugs in respect of which particulars of stocks and production are required now comprises some 326 items, and that of vaccines and sera, some fifty items.

Exchange Rates on London

During March no alterations occurred in the principal foreign exchange rates on London. Bank of England fixed rates include: New York, 4.03 dollars; Montreal, 4.45 dollars; Dutch West Indies, 7.60 florins; Lisbon, 100 escudos; Stockholm, 16.90 kroner. The Spanish rate is steady at 44 pesetas and the Chinese National dollar is unchanged at 3½d.

Pharmaceutical Chemicals

ALLOBARBITONE.—Steady at makers' price of 60s. per lb.

ASPIRIN.—Demand continues to be good. Currently quoted rates per lb., in quantities of 28 lb.—1 cwt., are as follows (containers brackets): 4s. (1-lb.); 3s. 10½d. (4-lb.); 3s. 9 (7-lb.); 3s. 9d. (14-lb.); 3s. 8½d. (28-lb.).

BENZYL BENZOATE.—Makers quote at from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity, medical purposes.

BORAX.—Makers quote as follows: B. granulated, £39 10s. per ton; crystals, £40 10 powder, £41, packed in one-cwt. bags; carriage paid in Great Britain, in one-ton lots and upwards. Commercial quality, £8 per ton less.

GALLIC ACID.—Current quotations range from 10s. 6d. to 11s. per lb., according to quantity.

MAGNESIUM OXIDE, LIGHT.—Makers' price per lb. for the home market, for quantities of 28 lb.—1 cwt., are as follows (containers brackets): 2s. 8d. (1-lb.); 2s. 6½d. (4-lb.); 2s. 5½d. (7-lb.); 2s. 5d. (14-lb.); 2s. 4½d. (28-lb.).

MANDELATES.—Makers' quotations are unchanged. SODIUM and CALCIUM.—4 oz., 8 0 and 1 lb., 22s. per lb.; 4 lb., 20s. 3d.; 7 lb., 18s. 6d.; 14 lb. (in 7-lb. packages), 16s. 9d. 28 lb. (in 7-lb. packages), 15s. per lb., net. AMMONIUM (50 per cent. solution).—4 oz., 8 0 and 1 lb., 11s. 9d. per lb.; 4 lb., 10s. 9½d.; 7 lb., 9s. 10d.; 14 lb. (in 7-lb. packages), 8s. 11½d. 28 lb. (in 7-lb. packages), 7s. 11d. per lb., net. Packages extra and returnable.

MORPHINE.—Current prices per oz. for small quantities are as follows: ALKALOID, ½ oz., 53s. 1 oz., 50s. 6d.; 2 oz., 49s.; 3 oz., 48s. 3d. 4 oz., 48s. HYDROCHLORIDE, ½ oz., 43s. 9d. 1 oz., 41s. 3d.; 2 oz., 39s. 9d.; 3 oz., 39s. 4 oz., 38s. 9d.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE.—Makers' quotation B.P. quality at 11s. 10d. per lb.

SANTONIN.—Home-trade prices are as follows: 10 kilos and over, £62; not less than 5 kilos, £63; 2-4 kilos, £64; 1 kilo, £65; 500 gm., £66; 500 gm., £67; 100 gm., £68; less than 10 gm., £69 per kilo. Carriage paid in United Kingdom.

SULPHANILAMIDE.—Quoted at from 10s. 6d. to 11s. per lb., according to quantity.

TANNIC ACID (LEVIS EX ETHER).—Quotations are steady at 10s. 6d. to 11s. per lb., according to quantity.

TERPINEOL.—Available for medicinal use only at 3s. 3d. to 4s. per lb., for B.P.C. quality.

VANILLIN.—Current rates per lb. are as follows: 5 cwt., 21s. per lb.; 1 cwt., 21s. 3d. 56 lb., 21s. 6d.; less than 56 lb., 21s. 9d.

Crude Drugs

BAR.—Price is controlled at 30s. per lb. The small business is being done at that figure.

COES.—No spot supplies of Cape are available. Curaçao is scarce on spot; the last forward was 295s. per cwt., c.i.f.

ELLADONNA.—Indian leaf, 0.4 per cent., 5s. 3d. per lb.; Indian root, 0.49 per cent., 1s. per cwt.; 0.36 per cent., 330s.

ENZON.—Stocks are now reduced and it is likely that any will be available for pharmaceutical purposes under £30 per cwt.

AMPHOR.—Approved buyers may obtain these crude at 10s. per lb., and B.P. at 11s. 6d. Supplies are limited.

ARDAMOMS.—Aleppy, greens are steady on at 5s. 6d. per lb., and Aleppy seed at 6s. 6d.; seed, 5s. 6d.

ASCARA SAGRADA.—Demand continues, with use of Lease-Lend material at 260s. per cwt. The Canadian bark is expected which may be available at rather below Lease-Lend prices.

CLOCYNTH.—Fine white pulp is available at 1½d. per lb., and off-colour at 2s. 10½d.

DIGITALIS LEAVES.—Portuguese leaves may be chased on spot at 135s. to 140s. per cwt., according to holder; English-grown leaves, 6d. per lb.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—Very little left on spot. per cwt. would now be required for Zanzibar P.

ERGOT.—In restricted supply on spot; price gains at 6s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. per lb., according to holder.

GINGER.—The final report of the ginger crop for the Madras Province for 1943 ("Indian Trade Journal") states that the area under ginger in 1943 is estimated at 13,000 acres in Malabar and 700 acres in South Kanara, as against the total area of 10,349 acres and 627 acres in South Kanara in the previous year. The crop reported to have been affected to some extent in parts of Malabar and in South Kanara. The seasonal factor is estimated at 95 per cent. of normal in both the districts, as against 100 per cent. in Malabar and 100 per cent. in South Kanara in the previous year. On this basis, the yield is estimated at 4,640 tons of ginger (4,400 tons in Malabar and 240 tons in South Kanara), as against 4,040 tons in the previous year (3,900 tons in Malabar and 140 tons in South Kanara).

GUM ACACIA.—A little firmer; values unchanged. Kordofan cleaned sorts, spot, 80s. per cwt.; bleached, shipment, 140s., c.i.f.; lha, cleaned, 50s. per cwt., landed.

IPECACUANHA.—The supply position of the spot is unchanged. It is understood that supplies of EXT. IPECAC. LIQ. are practically exhausted.

JALAP.—In restricted supply. Brazilian root, 180s. to 200s. per cwt., according to seller.

MENTHOL.—In good inquiry. It is understood that no offers can now be had from Brazil.

RHUBARB.—Good consuming demand, with buyers uncertain where next supplies are coming from. Rough round, spot, 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d. per lb. Shensi is not available.

SEEDS.—No changes have been noted in the prices of imported seeds; business continues quiet. Current rates are: **CORIANDER.**—Indian, 80s. per cwt. **CUMIN.**—Maltese, spot, 110s.; Indian, 105s. **DILL.**—160s., ex wharf. **FENNEL.**—Offered at 85s. **FENUGREEK.**—May be had at 80s. **MUSTARD.**—Controlled prices are unchanged.

SENNA.—Alexandrian medium pods are at 4s. per lb.; Tinnevely, manufacturing grade, 6d. to 6½d.; hand-picked, 8½d. to 1s.; broken Alexandrian leaves, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; siftings, 1s. 2d.; Tinnevely, No. 1, 9d. to 10½d.; No. 2 7d. to 7½d.; No. 3, 5½d. to 6d.

TRAGACANTH.—The principal medium grades are quoted as follows: No. 1, white, £130 per cwt.; No. 2, white, £115; No. 3, white, £100; No. 4, white, £85; pale leaf, £60; amber leaf, £50; dark amber, £40; brown leaf, £30; red-and-brown leaf, £25; red leaf, from £20; hoggy, £12 to £15.

WAXES.—**Bees'.**—Supplies may be obtained only through members of the Association of Merchant Distributors of Beeswax; official prices are as follows: Crude, 260s. to 290s. per cwt.; refined, 315s. to 355s.; bleached, 340s. to 370s.; Calcutta crude, 250s. to 270s.; Calcutta bleached, 325s. to 335s. **CARNAUBA.**—Fatty grey, dearer at 435s. per cwt., ex store, in minimum one-bag lots; shipment, 385s., c.i.f.; Primeira, 535s. per cwt., ex store, with stocks scarce; medium yellow, 527s. 6d. per cwt.; chalky grey, 425s. per cwt.; shipment, 375s., c.i.f. (c.i.f. prices include ½ per cent. W.R.I.). **CANDELLILA.**—As noted recently, prices have been reduced as follows: Under 1 ton, 235s. per cwt.; 1-5 tons, 232s. 6d.; 5 tons and over, 230s., ex store; forward, 225s. per cwt., c.i.f.

Essential and Expressed Oils

ANISE (STAR).—Any odd cases on spot would bring in about 145s. per lb.

CAJUPUT.—In restricted supply; spot, if available, about 15s. per lb.

CASTOR.—Controlled price for bulk lots is £92 per ton for firsts and £90 for seconds, both naked ex works.

CINNAMON.—Any available spot supplies of leaf oil would be worth approximately 15s. 6d. per lb.

CLOVE.—English distillers' prices for genuine B.P. oil are unchanged at 11s. 6d. to 12s. per lb., according to quantity.

GERANIUM.—Genuine North African oil on spot would be worth from 85s. to 90s. per lb., according to quantity.

NUTMEG.—English distilled oil is quoted at 40s. per lb., with lower prices for quantities.

RAPESEED.—Price of bulk supplies has been advanced by £15 to £85 per ton, naked ex works.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES

Dishorning of Calves.—*D. B.*—The only alternative to caustic potash that we can suggest for dishorning calves is caustic silver. This would, of course, be used in the same way as the potash.

Athletes' Foot.—*T. Y.*—Far greater attention has been given to this condition on the other side of the Atlantic than in this country, and the suggested treatment with carbolic acid and camphor, of each equal parts, is probably safe to use, though we have been unable to trace any reference to it in literature in this country. The preparation appears drastic, but is actually mild and non-corrosive.

Ertron.—*S. G. H.*—The variety of American vitamin D recommended for arthritis by Paul de Kruif in "Reader's Digest" for November 1943 is Ertron, a form of irradiated ergosterol made by the Nutrition Research Laboratories, 4210 Peterson Avenue, Chicago, 30. Some criticism of the value of Ertron in cases of arthritis is given in the "Journal of the American Medical Association," November 27, 1943, pp. 839 and 857.

Emulsion of Peppermint.—*J. W. W.*—The following gives a satisfactory emulsion, which separates only after long standing, and is easily diffusible on shaking:—

Ol. menth. pip.	..	..	10
Tinct. quillaia	..	..	5
Glycerin.	..	..	10
Aq. ad	..	..	100

A creamy emulsion easily made in the mortar is the following:—

Ol. menth. pip.	..	..	10
Tragacanth.	..	..	1
Glycerin.	..	..	10
Aq. ad	..	..	100

Fireproofing Materials.—*J. K.*—Surface coating methods are at best only fire-retarding, their chief value being to cause delay and give time for the arrival of the fire brigade. A burning building may reach a temperature of 1000° C., whilst wood ignites at about 300° C.; the limitations of surface coatings are thus obvious. The following formulas will be found useful:—For temporary sheds, etc., ordinary white-wash with 10 per cent. of common salt. For outdoor use, water-glass diluted with water and thickened with china clay. Indoors, a paint made with the usual base, but containing about 30 per cent. of borax in place of some of the pigment. The last-

named is a fairly good resistant and gives a more attractive surface than the usual preparations. For textiles, solutions of sodium tungstate and tin chloride. The solutions, used successively, leave a deposit of insoluble tin tungstate in the fibre.

Lead Hair Dye.—*M. M. W.*—Your formula is hardly that of a hair tonic but rather of a slow progressive dye or hair color restorer, based on the gradual formation of black lead sulphide in the hair. These lead hair dyes are usually considered to stain neither scalp nor linen, and any stain experienced would seem to indicate that the scalp is in an unhealthy condition. Lead acetate is, of course, a poison, and it is essential, when it is used on the hair, that the head should be frequently shampooed to remove any lead and oil from the scalp. It should not be used on the hair during the course of application of the lotion, as lead compounds (oleates, etc.) may be formed. These would be absorbed. Your formula would be better for an increase in the amount of glycerin; 5 to 10 per cent. is preferable.

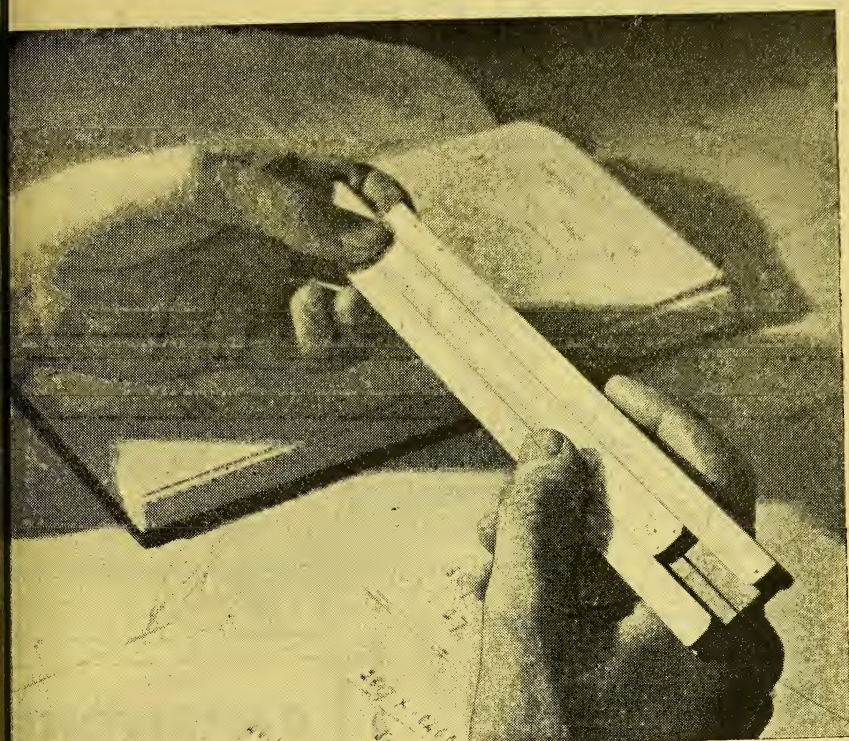
Head-cleansers.—*P. K. D.*—The following formula for a preparation for cleansing heads appears in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," Vol. II:—

HAIR WASH FOR LOOSENING NITS

Borax	..	..	4 oz.
Soft soap	..	..	2 lb.
Water	..	..	1 gall.

First rub in the tar-oil compound on the scalp. Wait five minutes, comb out over the basin, wash well with borax and soap, and wait again for five minutes. Then comb out all nits and rinse the head; dry the hair. A memorandum on "The Louse and How to Deal with It" was issued by the Ministry of Health (230A/Med.). Formulas suggested in this memorandum include a solution of Lethane 384 special (50 per cent. in white oil), the preparation being used as a hair oil.

"C. & D." Quiz No. 25.—The answers to the questions on p. 385 are: 1. Mercury, lead and zinc ointment. 2. Greek, *kalos*: beautiful and *melas*: black, because of the black precipitate formed by action of aqueous ammonia on mercurous chloride. 3. Emp. ferri. 4. Mee-schaum (hydrated magnesium silicate, $2\text{Mg} \cdot 3\text{SiO}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$). 5. Milk soured by *B. acidophilus*, or *B. bulgaricus*. 6. *Alstonia bartramia*. 7. Talc [$\text{Mg}_3(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5)_2 \cdot \text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$]. 8. Isinglass, the swimming bladder. 9. Pulv. acid. salicylic. 10. Canella bark.

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What has *not* been affected is the scientific precision and scrupulous

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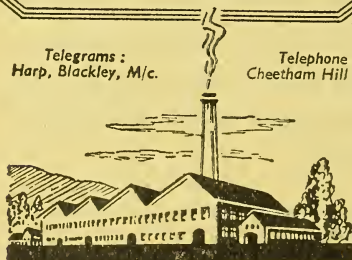
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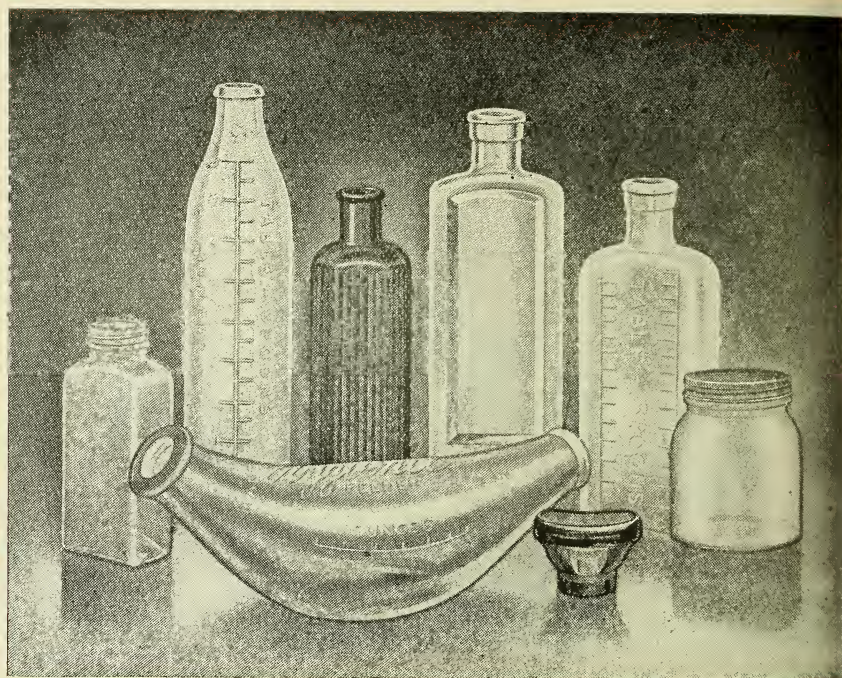
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GOLD PRODUCTION in South Africa has never before been so great and its price so high.

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Which way is the wind blowing in INDIA?

THE direction can be very easily ascertained from the following press message from Calcutta, December 25, 1943.

"An assurance that the Government of India were anxious to help the postwar development of Indian industries was given by Sir Azizul Haque, Commerce Member, Government of India, when he met the Committee of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce yesterday. He added that the Government's object in issuing a questionnaire on the subject recently was to elicit as much information as possible on the postwar requirements of Indian industries in order to facilitate the placing of orders with foreign manufacturers ahead, allaying the apprehensions felt by the Chamber that the import of consumers' goods from abroad as an anti-inflationary measure might injure the interests of Indian industries manufacturing similar goods in this country. Sir Azizul explained that the list of goods to be imported was being carefully scrutinized by the Government, and every care was taken that imports did not injure the interest of Indian industries. The Government were also considering associating an Advisory Committee with them in the preparation of this list. He further assured them that the Government were taking all possible steps to import raw materials and chemicals to help Indian industries."—A.P.

There cannot be any doubt, therefore, that the Indian Government intends to encourage the pharmaceutical industry even if they have to give it considerable protection.

Make your plans now for post-war expansion.

THE SERVICE WE CAN OFFER

- (1) A modern packing plant under hygienic conditions, air-conditioned where necessary.
- (2) A first-class tablet-manufacturing plant.
- (3) An all-India distribution with direct contact with the dealers throughout India by our own representatives.
- (4) Control of ethical propaganda.
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- (6) A comprehensive and up-to-date mailing list of the medical profession and hospitals throughout India, all accurately classified.

NOTE: Our business is to act as importers and distributors on an all-India basis for ethically marketed preparations. We specialize in importing in bulk and repacking with indigenous or imported packing materials and accessories. Send your enquiries to us.

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Manufacturing Chemists, Importers & Distributors
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A UNIQUE TABLET-MAKING SERVICE AT YOUR DISPOSAL

ALL TYPES OF COMPRESSED
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A staff of widely experienced tablet makers is available to see that all work undertaken is efficiently and correctly carried out.

Priority work must of a necessity have first call on our services; but all enquiries will have careful attention and every consideration.

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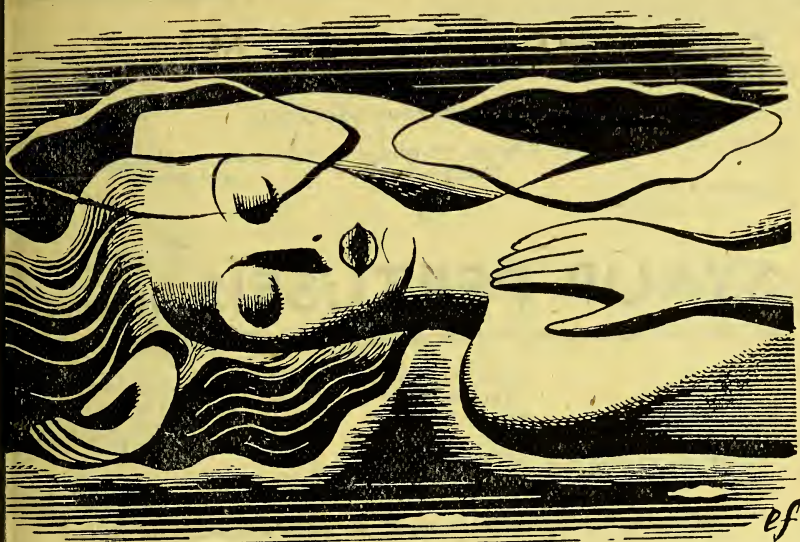
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THE CHEMIST & DRUGGIST DIARY AND YEAR BOOK, 1936
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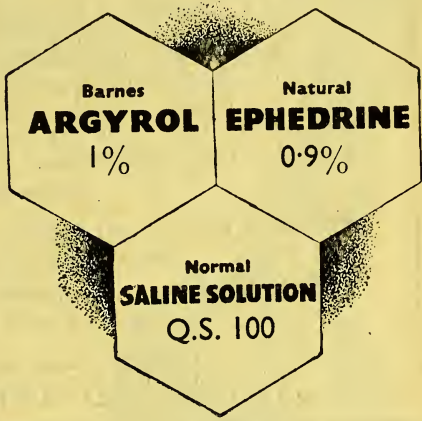
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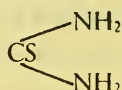
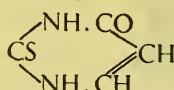
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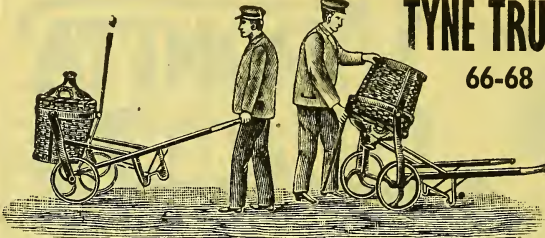
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Ribena
BLACKCURRANT SYRUP

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The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST SUPPLEMENT

This Supplement is inserted in every copy of The Chemist & Druggist

APRIL 8
1944

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